

THE

# Nonconformist.

THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION.

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## Ecclesiastical Affairs.

## THE PAPAL JUBILEE.

ON Sunday week last Pius IX. completed his fiftieth year as a bishop of the Roman Catholic Church; on Sunday week last, also, the political constitution formerly confined to the North of Italy, but now extended over the whole peninsula, reached the moderate age of thirty years. Both occasions were seized by the adherents respectively of an old-world and a new-world enthusiasm to glorify the objects of their devotion. An epoch of thirty years is not usually supposed to form any important era in the lifetime either of a man or of a nation; and it is impossible to help suspecting that the enthusiasts at the one end of the Bridge of St. Angelo gave a special emphasis to this particular anniversary simply because the enthusiasts at the other end were keeping high-day and holiday. The situation is difficult for us to realise. Fancy the Archbishop of Canterbury ruling Lambeth as a separate kingdom, and bombarding Westminster Palace across the river with volleys of groans and curses, as at once the martyr of the Church and the rightful overlord of the whole kingdom! John Bull is said to love anomalies; but he is dreadfully intolerant of inconveniences. In the impossible confusion supposed, Lambeth Palace at any, even the rudest, time of English history, would have crumbled to dust in a day under the recoil of its own spiritual missiles. We may well, therefore, wonder at the pathetic patience of the Italians, who have endured so long the intolerable burden of an irreconcilable foe in their own household. But they know that destiny is with them, and therefore they can afford to wait. The relations of the Quirinal and the Vatican remind us of the old moon in the new moon's arms: the one must increase, the other must decrease. But, meanwhile, the pale shadow, which, like a ghost, haunts with unsubstantial semblance of reality its once brilliant place, affects the heart with a certain tenderness by recalling vanished days.

Both the institution and the men concerned in the celebration of this Papal Jubilee have an undeniable interest which no candid student of human history will affect to ignore. No more striking instance can be given of the persistency of highly organised social forces than the slow but sure substitution of spiritual for political predominance in the ancient capital of the

world. If Greece conquered her masters by her intellectual force, Rome surpassed the feat in imposing upon her barbarian oppressors by her spiritual power the most complete and far-reaching dominion that the world has ever known. Setting aside theological considerations, while not for a moment ignoring their importance, we may safely admit that there were ages when the subtle but mighty influence of the Papacy did much to foster many precarious elements in the freedom of the future world, which without such a protection could scarcely have escaped the iron heel of military despotism. But those times are long gone by, and the Papacy of later centuries has been nothing but a transcendent instance of the worst forms of conservative inertia that harass and curse the progress of mankind. Yet let us not murmur against the Divine order of the world. Perhaps the forms of heroism called forth in rebellion against priestly pride, the dogged truthfulness of a Luther, the steely logic of a Calvin, the refined spirituality of the Huguenots, the indomitable hardihood of the Puritans, owe all the characteristics for which we value them in no small degree to the deadly foe with whom they had to wrestle. And the decaying Papacy, like a ruined tower with its weather stains, its lightning scars, and windy rents, recalls in its hoary weakness the majestic play of grandest forces in the days gone by. It is doomed. Its keen and worldly Italian statesmen, its army of Jesuits, its wonder-working powers of organisation cannot save it. It only waits the maturity of those new spiritual organisations which lack as yet the inspiration of a regenerated faith. When that comes, the Papacy will go the way of all anomalies. But, meanwhile, the rejoicings of its fanatic devotees stir in us a tribute of sorrowful sympathy, brightened by hopes which they cannot understand.

And the old man, whose benevolent face and kindly ways in the hospitalities of his Court are in such pathetic contrast to the dark history crowned by his reign, as well as to the shrieking denunciations he officially utters—who would deny to him some courteous recognition of the good intentions with which he once proposed to reconcile the hopes of revolution with the rule of the Church? Or who would refuse him all sympathy under the inexorable fate which has baffled the impossible attempt to mingle truth and falsehood, tyranny and justice? Those who have seen him beaming with a fatherly compassion and tenderness, that sat well upon his handsome, venerable face, as crowds from every nation under heaven bowed reverently around him, could not forbear the impression that a loving human heart beat beneath his pontifical vestments. As in hundreds of fatal instances, the evils he has wrought have not been so much the crime of the man as the iron necessity of the system by which he is enthralled. As a kindly Nonconformist minister once said of him:—"Poor old man! what a pitiable thing it is to be a humbug and not to know it." But people in that unfortunate condition rarely do know it, and certainly almost the last man that could be suspected of such self-knowledge is Pius IX. Throughout the whole of his unusually long career, an element of strenuous eagerness has flashed like lightning through the Italian softness of his temper. Whether the young soldier Count Mastai Feretti ever distinguished him-

self by deeds of valour we are not aware. We rather think he never had the opportunity. Yet we can well conceive that, had he pursued his first calling, he would have made many a headlong charge, and would have been alternately the life of the mess-table and the soul of the attacking column. This strenuous eagerness made him early prominent amongst the ecclesiastics with whom he finally cast in his lot. Combined with the social qualities which made him popular, it marked him out at an unusually early age as the choice of the Curia for the Papal chair. And in that supreme elevation, this same strenuous eagerness urged him on to the fatal attempt at combining the leadership of political revolution with an incongruous but emphatic assertion of the prerogatives of the Church. It might have been foreseen that such a man, when convinced that only one part of his programme could be carried out, would have little hesitation as to his choice, and would concentrate all his perverted energies on the resuscitation of a defunct spiritual despotism. Since the Romans could not be made to understand that the only use of freedom was its voluntary surrender to the paternal guidance of the Pope, not they only, but the whole world, should be made to feel that the interests of the patrimony of St. Peter were supreme over all human affairs. Hence his committal of himself to the Jesuits. Hence his intrigues with the French Empire. Hence his autocratic enunciation of the doctrine of the Immaculate Conception. Hence, too, his daring enterprise of an Ecumenical Council, and his blasphemous assumption of an infallibility consistent only with the attributes of deity. Now his stormy days have almost rolled away. Impotent, pitiable, alternately denunciatory and plaintive, he awaits at an unusually advanced age the touch of dissolution that must bury in his grave the last hopes of the old Papal dominion. His passage into eternity will be a solemn moment for the whole world. Will it let loose the storm of religious war? or will it release imprisoned forces of reorganisation to do their work in peace? Who can tell? "Known unto God are all His works from the beginning of the world."

## THE CHURCH DOVECOTE IN A FLUTTER.

As a sudden shot in a rookery, or a stone flung amongst a fleet of quackling ducks, the Ridgdale judgment has roused a discordant chorus of outcries which for the present shows no signs of abatement. In another column we give a selection of such utterances, and, not for their own sake, but as weather tokens, they may be worth perusal and comparison. The Bishop of Winchester sees in the judgment a strong reason for the desire expressed by the signatories of the address to the archbishops for a "living voice of the Church." He thinks ecclesiastical controversies would be much better settled by such an authority than by the shrewd guesses of lawyers at the historical meaning of what was laid down a couple of hundred years ago. But then, being a bishop, and therefore having experience of the ways of a worldly legislature, Dr. Harold Browne sees difficulties in the way such as scarcely occur to clergymen in a humbler position with a more contracted outlook. He is of opinion that such a living voice can find utterance only through



a reformed Convocation, into which "a large and important lay element" is to be infused. He knows too much of the world, however, to suppose that Parliament would consent to share its government of the "National Church" with any sectarian convention, however carefully constituted. Nor does he expect that the interpretation of Acts of Parliament will just yet be entrusted to judges elected by the dangerous classes themselves. He is, therefore, fain to acknowledge that obedience to the Court of Appeal is better for the present distress than allowing "every man in a great organised society to be his own judge." The bishop, naturally associating the discussion of such a subject with disestablishment, declares that he has no fear of such a measure if it comes from the "inside." At disestablishment from within does appear to him the unkindest cut of all, and would hand over the ecclesiastical business of the Church, not to Dissent, but to Romanism and infidelity as the "residuary legatees." "Behold, my son," said the wise man, "with how little wisdom the world is ruled!" We rather think he had had no experience of the Church.

"A Clergyman," in the *Guardian*, makes some apposite and timely observations on the power of judges to "build up and insensibly modify whole departments of law." "He has heard that when the general current of legal opinion runs one way they can even turn the flank of the Legislature in the interests of what they think ought to be law." He goes on to point out that in this way the laws of the Church are coming to be not only determined but made by a body which no one ever dreamt of entrusting with Legislative functions. In a word, he thinks that the results produced by the Court of Appeal are as great an innovation as any of the practices it has condemned. "One result of this state of things is that the clergy feel that, for the faults of a few wilful men, they are in matters relating to public worship no longer in the hands of their bishops, but of a board of eminent Privy Counsellors, and, at the other end of the scale, of paid reformers." The sting of this statement is in the tail. The Public Worship Regulation Act is never likely to be worked very vigorously by the bishops. It requires omnipresent vigilance committees to make it act, and these involve paid agency. The servants of the Church Association, anxious to do something for their living, select the person and the proceedings to be complained of. However feeble and short-sighted the originators of the litigation may be, the Act placed by Lord Beaconsfield at their disposal gives them a giant's powers for forcing ecclesiastical authorities into a dilemma. They push them into a position in which, owing to the rusty and obsolete character of Church law, there seems to be absolutely no third alternative between declaring openly the essentially sacerdotal character of the Anglican religion, and forcing words into non-natural applications. The result is such miraculous judicial legerdemain as that which has recently astonished the whole world with the resources of English legal ingenuity. The old story of the ruler's child who persuades the mother, who works on the father, receives a new and miserable illustration. The machinery that moulds the laws of the Church of England may be put into inevitable operation by hands of which the worst is, not that they are feeble, but that they are not over clean; and the proud Elizabeth and the English Solomon, who hector and lectured their Parliaments, have fallen so low that they are made to do the dirty work of sectarian spite and its hired agents. But how can it be avoided? Parliament has practically abdicated its powers so far as the prescription of doctrine is concerned; while at the same time it refuses to delegate those powers to anyone else. The consequence is that a dead lock can only be avoided by the unconstitutional legislation of courts under the guise of judicial decisions.

The correspondents of ecclesiastical papers are agitated as to the prospects which lie before them. There are only three possible courses

for the antagonists of Ritualism; and which ever is adopted the practical issue must sooner or later be the same. They may take the judgment as an encouragement to fresh prosecutions. In that case the zeal of their opponents will burn so hotly that the boilers of the State machine must infallibly burst, and that speedily. Or they may be satisfied with their victory, and abjure all further proceedings. In that case the victory will prove to be merely formal, and the protests it has called forth will extend the influence of the Church Union. Ritualism will be more than ever the rage; and rationalism will at last step in to do what the Evangelicals ought to have done long ago had they possessed the courage of their convictions. Or, finally, the Church Association may select its cases for prosecution, taking up, as is suggested by a correspondent of the *Spectator*, only those in which the Ritualist clergyman offends his congregation. We suspect these cases are very few; and as the ground of complaint would have to be, not that the clergyman had offended his congregation, but that he had broken the law, the immunity of scores of more popular law-breakers around him would make his condemnation a scandal, and recoil in ruin upon the only institution which deliberately perverts the equality of English justice.

#### THE BURIALS BILL.

In the House of Lords on Monday the Duke of Richmond and Gordon, in laying upon the table the amendments to the Burials Bill, announced that with the exception of one they were merely verbal, though numerous. The one he alluded to was an amendment by the Earl of Portsmouth, which he had agreed to in principle, but thought it would be necessary to somewhat alter the words. He made that statement in pursuance of the pledge he had given to the noble earl opposite.

The amendment of the Earl of Portsmouth, which is accepted by the Government, simply provides that landowners having a limited qualification may transfer land for a burial ground to "the governing body of any religious denomination in trust," as well as to a burial authority.

The Ely Diocesan Conference commenced its sittings at Ely on Wednesday under the presidency of the bishop. About 100 clergymen and laymen attended. The Bishop said that it was no use refusing to see that a strong feeling in favour of disestablishment had sprung up within the Church; that many sober-minded persons doubt how long the spiritual character of the Church would be maintainable in connection with the present system of ecclesiastical legislation and judicature; and that the Public Worship Regulation Act had given a strong impetus to the movement for disestablishment. Upon the subject of the Burial Acts Consolidation Bill a strong feeling was exhibited. Archdeacon Chapman, of Sudbury, moved, and the Rev. Canon Birkett seconded, "That this Conference of Clergy and Laity of the Diocese of Ely is earnestly opposed to any legislation which shall permit persons not ministers of the Church of England to officiate in churchyards; they cannot believe but that such a measure would have a direct tendency to weaken the bond which has so long existed between Church and State." Canon Bulstrode thoroughly disagreed from the proposition, deplored the resistance to every just concession, and advocated the adoption of Mr. Osborne Morgan's Bill. Mr. Hunter Rodwell, Q.C., M.P., moved, as an amendment, "That in every parish in which there is no other burial ground than the churchyard, the minister of the parish shall, upon the written request of the legal representative of any person deceased in such parish, grant permission to a Dissenting minister of the religious denomination of the deceased to conduct a burial service in such churchyard on the following conditions:—1, No person shall conduct such service who is not a member of some religious sect having a registered place of worship; 2, such service shall be of a religious character; 3, no such service shall be conducted on the Lord's Day or on other days during the celebration of any service of the Established Church in the church or churchyard, or within one hour before or after such service." The Dean of Ely seconded the motion proposed by Mr. Rodwell, which was lost by 21 to 75. The Rev. Hugh Smyth strongly advised a settlement that should embrace a reasonable concession to the feelings of Nonconformists, and moved an amendment to that effect, which was, however, lost by 10 to 76. The resolution of Archdeacon Chapman was carried. Mr. Marten, M.P. for Cambridge, was unable to be present, but sent his intended remarks, in which he advocated the expediency of extending the cemetery system already in operation so as to be applicable to the whole of the population of England and Wales.

The Burials Bill was discussed on Thursday by the Norwich Diocesan Church Defence Association, which was presided over by the Bishop of Norwich, who said that in dealing with the question there were two alternatives for Churchmen—they must either open the churchyards to all, or close them after providing a common burial ground. Much

as it would pain him to have the churchyards closed, he would rather that sacrifice be made than there should be any intrusion into them of other than ordained ministers. A resolution against admitting any other than Church ministrations into churchyards was unanimously adopted.

The Church Defence Institution is endeavouring to secure "a decisive expression of the feelings of the clergy" to "sustain the Government" in their resolution to prevent the adoption of Lord Harrowby's clause. For this purpose it has privately issued an urgent appeal, signed by a number of deans, archdeacons, and others, asking for signatures to the following declaration:—"We, the undersigned clergy of the Church of England, being averse to the introduction of such services into the churchyards as would be sanctioned by the Earl of Harrowby's proposed amendment to the Burial Acts Consolidation Bill, hereby declare, firstly—That we consider the churchyards (subject to the legal rights of the parishioners to interment) to be the property of the Church of England; secondly—That we are opposed to any legislation which shall permit persons, not ministers of that Church, to claim, as of right, to officiate in our churchyards, and to use forms and ceremonies therein which are not sanctioned by the English Church."

A correspondent of the *Daily News* writes:—"In the quiet village of Bredon's Norton, about five miles from Tewkesbury, lives a gentleman, now eighty years of age, whose ancestors have for generations been respected inhabitants of this place, and for a hundred years at least his family have been closely connected with the Baptist Church at Pershore. This gentleman and his family are highly esteemed by all classes in the village, from the humblest rustic upwards, the clergyman regarding him as one of his most intimate friends, often calling to spend the evening with him, and thus partaking of his generous hospitality, from which you may infer that the gentleman above does not belong to that much-abused and woefully misunderstood class termed 'Political Dissenters.' A son of the above gentleman was on Saturday last seized with a severe illness, which resulted in death on the Monday following. Although of blameless character, being of a retiring disposition, he never made a profession of discipleship to Christ, hence died unbaptized. When the bereaved father made application to have the bell go out, according to custom, the sexton assured him he could not comply with his wishes, as the clergyman had ordered him to do nothing of the kind. The priestly authority got the better of the man, so that the clergyman refused not only to perform the service at the grave, but put his veto on the passing out of the bell, and was reluctant, so the father informed me, even to allow the body to find a place of rest within the precincts of the burial ground. The grave, however, was claimed by the father, and at length granted, and his nature revolting from the thought of having a loved son buried like a dog or suicide, he asked the minister of the Baptist Church, Pershore, to conduct a religious service, which he did, standing outside the boundary wall of the churchyard. A large number of neighbours and friends were present, and seemed deeply moved at the injustice done to the doubly-grieved family. After the service several gentlemen connected with the Church of England expressed their sympathy, and hoped that before the present Parliament closes the question would be settled on broad, liberal, and comprehensive principles, to which we added our fervent amen."

#### CHURCH OPINION ON THE RIDSDALE JUDGMENT AND DISESTABLISHMENT.

The Rev. William Hope, M.A., vicar of St. Peter's, Derby, has just announced his intention of abandoning eucharistic lights and vestments so soon as the judgment in the Ridsdale appeal case shall have become law.

The Church Association have published the following:—"A statement having been widely circulated by the Ritualists of Folkestone that the promoters of the Ridsdale case wished to withdraw from it, the Church Association have just issued a formal declaration, signed by the promoters, Messrs. Clifton, Miller, and Harris, affirming that they undertook the duty freely and voluntarily and without persuasion; and that they have persistently refused to sign an agreement, although it has been repeatedly pressed upon them."

Some misunderstanding prevails as to the judgment pronounced by the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council in the appeal, "The Rev. C. J. Ridsdale v. Clifton and others." The minutes are being drawn up, and the case will be remitted to the Court of Arches, on which a monition will be served, and unless Mr. Ridsdale obeys the same he will be liable to commitment for contempt. The rev. gentleman professes his willingness to remove the crucifix placed in St. Peter's, Folkestone, when served with notice, but insists on his right to wear the alb and chasuble in the Communion Service instead of the surplice, and to use lighted candles. Other practices which he had used in the service he has discontinued. The judgment, when drawn up in a prescribed form, will be submitted to Her Majesty, and until the same is confirmed by an Order in Council it has no legal effect. The publication of the judgment will be by placing the same on a Sunday on the church door, and by a service if necessary on Mr. Ridsdale. The case was commenced under the Public Worship Regulation Act



on Nov. 1, 1875, in the Arches Court, and was taken to the Judicial Committee on Feb. 5 following.

A correspondence is published between the Archbishop of Canterbury and Rev. C. J. Ridsdale, in which the archbishop says that, understanding that Mr. Ridsdale is willing to be guided by him as his bishop, his grace gladly takes upon himself the whole responsibility of directing Mr. Ridsdale not to wear the chasuble and alb at the administration of the holy communion, and to abstain from using lighted candles and the mixed chalice. The archbishop also grants him a complete dispensation from the obligation under which he believes himself to lie to act upon what he conceives to be the literal meaning of the ornaments rubric. Mr. Ridsdale announced to his congregation on Sunday night that he would obey the archbishop's order as a temporary measure until Convocation should have had fitting opportunity to deliberate on the question. "If (he added) it shall appear that the opportunity passes without the question being solved, I feel I shall not be justified in using the dispensation any longer."

The Bishop of Carlisle has addressed a long letter to the clergy of his diocese "on matters connected with the recent judgment." As to vestments, he recommends obedience to the conclusion of the Privy Council, and is deeply grieved at the advice given by Dr. Pusey, observing that "it is equally open to every other clergyman to disregard any decision, however solemnly reached, if he should regard it as a misinterpretation of law." In conclusion, the bishop hopes that there may now be "concession and pacification on all sides," though "if clergymen will persist in asserting the infallibility of their own interpretations," he fears that peace is no nearer than it was before.

The Bishop of Winchester (Dr. Harold Browne), in a recently-published letter, expresses the opinion, that though it is desirable to settle ecclesiastical disputes by the "living voice of the Church," instead of by the shrewd guesses of lawyers at the historical meaning of what was laid down a couple of hundred years ago, there is no means of gaining audience for such a voice except through such a reform of Convocation as would introduce into it a "large and important lay element; and that this could not be effected in a hurry, or so as to determine present controversies. The only immediate alternative, therefore, is to accept such interpretations as are given of the old rules, even though the tribunal giving these interpretations may be regarded as having a certain unecclesiastical bias of its own; for the danger of accepting the interpretation given even though it be with such a bias, is not nearly so great as would result "from every man in a great organised society being his own judge." If disestablishment comes on the Church from outside, Dr. Harold Browne would not fear, though he would not welcome it, and would heartily work on in the disestablished Church, in the belief that the blow would be found much less likely to injure the Church than those who insisted on disestablishing it. But disestablishment coming from within, in consequence of internal differences and animosities between different elements of the Church, the bishop does heartily deprecate. Coming from within, it would really disintegrate the Church, while "Romanism and Infidelity," rather than Dissent, would be found to be "the residuary legatees" of the organisation so broken up.

In an able letter to the *Guardian*, "A Clergyman" remarks that the Ridsdale judgment is felt on all sides, rightly or wrongly, to be a grave public event, and goes on to say:—

I have the greatest respect, though I am but a clergyman, for English law. I know that there must be courts of appeal. And I know how difficult it is to suggest a good one. But I have heard that judges and courts, without any reflection on their integrity, have a power and a disposition to build up and modify insensibly whole departments of law by continually dealing with them. I have heard that when the general current of legal opinion runs one way, they can even turn the flank of the Legislature in the interests of what they think ought to be law. But, anyhow, I submit that what gives this last judgment its special importance is not simply its ruling on certain points, important as this may be; but that it brings before us with a force which commands attention the way in which the internal character of the English Church is now being determined, and the regulation of its doctrine and practice provided for. A new power, new in its activity and influence, has grown up by insensible degrees, in the shape of a court of a somewhat exceptional and irregular kind, to check and reform what are considered abuses, and to fix the basis, doctrine, and ritual of the Church; and this power has so moulded and altered them that what were probable opinions or open questions in 1840 are said to be closed for good in 1877. I venture to think that in what the court has done, and in the profound effect which its legal policy has produced on the position of parties in the Church, it is almost as great an innovation, though a gradual and silent one, as any of the practices which it has condemned—an innovation which may have serious consequences. One result of this state of things is that the clergy feel that, for the faults of a few wilful men, they are, in matters relating to public worship, no longer in the hands of their bishops, but of a board of eminent Privy Councillors, and, at the other end of the scale, of paid reformers.

In a letter to the *Spectator* Mr. Lee Warner remarks that if the Ridsdale judgment is set at defiance, it will not be the Church, but at the most 3,000 clergymen—that is, one-seventh part of the whole body—who place themselves in deliberate opposition to the State. The writer concludes by saying:—

For more than five years these frivolous questions

connected with Ritual have, in the phraseology of Church newspapers, "agitated the minds of men," while far graver questions have been occupying the attention of the Scotch Assemblies and the Irish Church. I quite understand the chivalrous feeling which has led you hitherto to claim a hearing for the Ritualists, as they are called, though I cannot but think them well able to take care of themselves; but I venture to remind you now of the existence of many other minorities within the Church, and to ask you no longer to countenance that one among them which, unable by fair means to obtain a majority within the society to which it still belongs, is ready to ally itself with its avowed enemies, and respects no other authority but the dictates of its own will.

Another correspondent, Mr. J. E. Symes, of Downing College, writes in quite a different sense. He says:—

Would not the most practical solution of the ecclesiastical difficulty be this? Let the bishops decline to sanction all prosecutions for ritual, in cases where, after due examination, it shall appear that the ritual in question is generally acceptable to the congregation (in large towns), or to the parish (in rural districts). The Legislature has entrusted a discretion to the bishops, plainly implying a belief that it is not desirable to prosecute every deviation from the Rubrics (as interpreted by the Law Courts).

If, by a succession of prosecutions, the good work which is being done in many places by the Ritualistic clergy is broken up, it is not unlikely that considerable popular sympathy may be evoked; and it is not necessary to point out the evil of a state of things in which such a sentiment is aroused against the execution of the law. If, on the other hand, prosecutions were resorted to only in the case of priests who were forcing their ritual on unwilling congregations, it is certain that such priests would receive no sympathy from the general public, and they would not even be supported by the Ritualistic body, as a whole.

Another writer, who signs "G. Sarson," and says he is a Broad Churchman, remarks that the Ritualists have been goaded into their present state of mind by a course of treatment spread over years. They do not forget, though others find it convenient to forget, that many of the changes for which they were first attacked have now been almost universally adopted. The Ritualists, like himself, hold that it would be schism to secede from the Church, though he differs widely from the doctrines laid down in the Thirty-Nine Articles. The writer concludes by saying:—

It is a noble thing when a bishop can lead public opinion. It is not so usual a sight as we could wish. This instance, in which many of them do take the lead in putting down what folks think a great evil, is perhaps a solitary exception. And here it would be nobler far would they correct countless misconceptions and forgetfulnesses, which are rife, and which prevent the battle from being fought on its real issue, though they largely swell the numbers who back up the leaders. I, like you, sir, am perplexed. But I am sure we ought to stand by the Ritualists to the utmost.

Last week we adverted to the article of the Rev. A. H. Mackonochie on "Disestablishment and Disendowment" in the *Nineteenth Century*, which, as the *Guardian* says, adds one more to the indications with which the serial literature of the day is teeming—that, for good or for evil, the relations of Church and State are being rapidly brought out of the region of abstract speculation into the stormier arena of practical politics. The following passage describes Mr. Mackonochie's ideas relative to disendowment:—

First would come the repeal of all ecclesiastical statutes, except perhaps 9 Henry III. c. 1, "the confirmation of liberties." With these would go also all clauses of statutes which in any way legislate in ecclesiastical matters or for ecclesiastical persons as such. All judicial sentences in causes ecclesiastical, except for immorality, pronounced by the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council; also such sentences pronounced by any ecclesiastical court as simply registering a previous decision of that court, or acting upon principles laid down by it; also the sentences pronounced by any judge appointed under the Public Worship Regulation Act, or by any judge, upon the basis of any action before such judge, would be declared null and void, as though they had never been pronounced. All rights, customs, honours, or dignities, or the opposite, conferred or imposed otherwise than by statute, would be withdrawn. All tithes and charges of all kinds customarily levied for ecclesiastical purposes would be remitted for the future. It would then remain to dispose of the funds in the hands of Ecclesiastical Commissioners. Those endowments which have been given during the present century would naturally revert to the donors or their representatives, if any. Out of other funds, other lay patrons would be reimbursed for the loss of their patronage; and the remains of the money and lands would lapse to Government. The fact that it had been given for religious purposes would seem to point to its being spent on good and charitable works, such as hospitals, bridges, improvement of the dwellings of the poor, especially in large cities, foundation of asylums for ebrates and the like. As to churches and parsonages it would seem fair (as all the property which, however undesirable, has yet actually for so long a time ministered to the Church would now lapse to the State) that the churches should be left to us; and where the parsonage is of modest dimensions, not unsuited to the limited resources of a parish priest, and near the church, it might reasonably be left also. Those large parsonages with expensive grounds which exist in some parishes should be taken away, and, if possible, a smaller and less costly house, with perhaps a small garden and field, given in exchange. The palaces of the bishops, if large and at a distance from the cathedral, would be out of place, and lapse to the State; but where, as in many instances, the palace is close to the cathedral, and only of such a size as would enable its occupant to offer simple hospitality to his clergy, it might probably remain. All this, however, should be thought of as quite immaterial compared with the great gain to the "kingdom not of this world" of being freed from wealth and

honours. If every brick and stone be claimed by the State, we shall be the gainers in returning the more closely to that state of things under which Christ founded His Church and sent forth His apostles. Lastly, as the very possession of endowments and of the prestige of Establishment is an evil to be escaped, it would be well that, instead of what are called "vested interests" being respected as regards ecclesiastics, the Act should come into force absolutely, say twelve months from the day of its receiving the royal assent. During this interval it ought to be allowed, to all who wished to do so, to withdraw from the exercise of this ministry, and obtain from the State an annuity in proportion to the value of the benefice they would lose, to be held as long as they should abstain from officiating.

#### DIESTABLISHMENT MOVEMENT.

##### DISCUSSION AT WELLINGTON.

On Tuesday evening week a large audience assembled at the Town Hall, Wellington, Shropshire, to hear a debate between the Rev. E. Whitehouse, curate of Dawley, and the Rev. C. Williams, a Nonconformist minister, of Acoorington, the subject for discussion being—"Are the principles and objects of the Liberation Society revolutionary?" Mr. Whitehouse took the affirmative, and Mr. Williams the negative side of the question. A chairman was appointed on behalf of each disputant, Mr. E. Clayton representing Mr. Whitehouse, and Mr. T. R. Groom, Mr. Williams. Mr. Whitehouse opened the discussion, occupying half-an-hour, and Mr. Williams followed for the same period. Then each speaker was allowed ten minutes alternately till the debate closed. The object of the former was to show that the principles of the Liberation Society had the tendency to destroy the Constitution of the country, not only the Lords and Commons, but to subvert the whole fabric of the Constitution. The following is a specimen of his style of argument:—

Political Dissent was a revolutionary war against the institutions of the country—(Cries of "No," cheers, and counter-cheers)—against what Burke tells them is the beginning and the end of the constitution of a country. After a plundered church, they were told they were to have plundered charities, and then plundered gentry. (Cheers and cries of "No," and a voice, "Who says so?") That was what happened in the seventeenth century, and it ended in the overthrow of the throne, the decapitation of the monarch, and the establishment of a military despotism. In France they did the same, and at the close of last century kindred spirits sought to give to such principles similar supremacy in this country. They found the same principle abroad to-day—(applause)—and at the last meeting of the Liberation Society it was stated that a candidate for a seat in Parliament, however honest and public-spirited he might be, should not be supported unless he would adopt the views of the Liberation Society.

[If the reference is to the proceedings of the recent conference, it is simply untrue.] Mr. Whitehouse concluded by asking whether he had not proved that a society which proposed to confiscate property, to trample on the rights of religion, and bring about an abnegation of the obligations of law was a revolutionary society? Mr. Williams, in the course of his reply, complained that, from the beginning to the end of his speech, Mr. Whitehouse had not given a single proof of any statement which he had made. They had assertions innumerable, evidence none.

It was said by Mr. Whitehouse that they were told by the Liberation Society not to seek but to shun religion. Told by whom? (Applause.) Told where? (Renewed applause.) He was perfectly startled by this audacity of accusation, and he began to doubt even the evidence of his own senses. They were told that Liberationists advocated withholding loyalty from the Queen, under certain circumstances. Where was the evidence of that? (Cheers and laughter.) Was it to be found in any official publication of the Liberation Society? As to the objects and principles of the Liberation Society, what were they? The first principle was that the civil power ought not to interfere between a man and his God. (Hear, hear.) Another principle was that the civil power should make no difference between one citizen and another on account of his creed. (Cheers.) Then they thought that religion was best left to Christ and those who believe in Christ. (Renewed cheers.) The object of the Liberation Society was unquestionably the separation of the Church from the State, and if that should be done they believed the State would be quite as religious as it was at present, and more so, even if the Queen appointed no more Bishops, and Churchmen governed and supported themselves. (Loud cheers.) Mr. Whitehouse had told them that the Liberation Society would confiscate the property of private patrons. He had in his hand a book which had been published by the society, and it was said therein that they would buy the property of such patrons. He asked Mr. Whitehouse again to substantiate what he had said on this subject, or else to have the manliness to retract it. (Cheers.) The clergy would not be wronged by disendowment as proposed by the Liberation Society, for the documents to which he had referred said that both on political and financial grounds, it might be right to compensate the clergy for the loss of their livings. And yet here was a gentleman coming forward and expressly denying what was printed in the document to which he had referred. (Applause.)

After the opening statement, Mr. Whitehouse spoke three times, and Mr. Williams also. But from the report before us the Curate of Dawley was not worth the expenditure of powder and shot, his assertions and charges being simply absurd. In his closing address, which mainly consisted of a denial of the monstrous allegations of his opponent, Mr. Williams said:—

It was said that the sanction of the State was necessary to the faith of the people. That was, to him, the immoral part of the affair. Was Jesus Christ of no use except he was backed up by the Queen? Was that book which, to him, was the power of faith for salvation of no avail unless supported by the State, nor faith



nor morality any living power unless backed up by Act of Parliament? If the Church could only be supported by man-made statutes that Church was not founded on a rock, and would not stand. He trusted he had a nobler faith and a higher aspiration than to require to be supported by such arguments as those of Mr. Whitehouse. Caesar did not smile upon the infant Church, and they had no Acts of Parliament to bring it up, and if it should be proscribed by the State, as it had been in bygone days, so long as there was such a thing as the grace of God, and light from heaven upon their path on earth, so long could it do without State patronage, and even in spite of State opposition the Church of Christ would live, and would promote human liberty and the glory of God. It was for this reason that he asked that meeting to support the Liberation Society to the full extent of its power. (Applause.)

Mr. Williams then proposed, and Mr. Whitehouse seconded, a vote of thanks to the chairman and the umpire, which those gentlemen acknowledged, and the meeting broke up amid vociferous cheering on both sides for their respective champions.

Mr. J. Cox, Fellow of Trinity College, a Nonconformist, has been elected to the vacant wardenship of Cavendish College, Cambridge.

ORACULAR.—We believe that the Established Church is the keystone in the arch of the British Constitution. Its removal would be fatal.—*Record*.

MR. MACKONCHIE.—The *Church Times* understands that a fresh prosecution has been commenced against the vicar of St. Alban's; not, however, under the Public Worship Regulation Act, but on the plea that Mr. Mackonchie has disobeyed the injunctions of the Privy Council.

THE PRIEST IN ABSOLUTION.—Lord Redesdale has given notice that to-morrow he will call attention in the House of Lords to a book entitled "The Priest in Absolution," privately printed, and at the disposal of an association of clergymen called the Society of the Holy Cross, for private and limited circulation among the clergy.

"THE NEW COMMUNION."—The *Whitehall Review* believes that arrangements are so far advanced with regard to what has been written of as "The New Communion" that a formal synod of the founders will be held in London on Tuesday, July 3, and succeeding days. The official pastoral of the authorities will, it is reported, most probably be issued early in September. This new organisation will (says the same journal) in no degree partake of the character of the St. Alban's, Holborn, Radical programme, but its basis will be distinctly Conservative, and provide at once a position for exciting a policy not unlikely to commend itself to many Churchmen, and at least to command respect.

THE SCOTCH KIRK AND DISESTABLISHMENT.—In his closing address in the Scotch Church Assembly, the Moderator (Dr. Phin) referred to the disestablishment movement, about which he took the view that it was not only unwise and unscriptural, but positively sinful. He further said that on these grounds, even though disestablishment were effected, it would, in the circumstances, be their duty to hold aloof from those sections of Presbyterians who were now working for the destruction of the State connection. The existing relations between the Church and the State, he maintained, so far from being detrimental to the interests of religion, produced quite the opposite effect.

RELIGIOUS FREEDOM IN BELGIUM.—The Rev. M. Anet, secretary of the Belgian Evangelical Society, and for the last thirty-five years Protestant pastor at Brussels, went to Morenville on the 3rd instant to preach in a private room. Both he and a Bible colporteur were arbitrarily arrested there by a gendarme, notwithstanding the protestation of a communal councillor, who had received them at his house. They were conducted to Anthée, and kept there in prison for some hours. When they were released, on the reception of a telegram from the Brussels police, M. Anet was told by the sergeant of the gendarmes never to set his foot again in Morenville. M. Frère-Orban having questioned the Ministry on the subject, the Minister of Justice replied that he had already demanded a report from the Crown Prosecutor, and that this report will be communicated to the Chamber.

RITUALISTS ON CHURCH AND STATE.—The *Church Review* in bringing to a close a series of seven articles on Church and State, says:—This then is our contribution to the fund of controversy on the momentous question of Church and State. Keep the distinction between them clear. It is the judicial method. When a judge has a complicated case before him his first task is to define the points. Every case is ultimately reducible to an issue between two parties; and his first care is to bring the two points out prominently. This done the decision is comparatively easy. We say comparatively easy, for we know what tremendous sacrifices must be made whichever way the present difficulty may be solved; but easy because when principles are declared results reveal themselves. We are conscious that in treating this subject we have been but fingering the fringe of a great subject. We have intentionally left out much that would have been absolutely necessary in a formal treatise. Our object has been to plead for reality in religion lest the identity of the Church be lost in her *alias*—an establishment.

ST. JAMES'S, HATCHAM.—A deputation from St. James's, Hatcham, waited on the Archbishop of Canterbury, on Monday, at Lambeth Palace, to call his grace's attention to certain questions

arising out of the present state of the parish on the archbishop becoming guardian of the diocese, consequent on the translation of Dr. Claghton to the see of St. Alban's. The Bishop of Rochester's secretary was in attendance. Mr. Fry, the people's churchwarden, said the deputation wished his grace, first, to consider carefully the propriety of sequestering the living of St. James's, Hatcham, in order to provide a suitable payment for the curate in charge; secondly, the appointment of a curate who would visit the parishioners, and arrange the question of the management of the parish schools; and, lastly, the application which had been made for a faculty to authorise the removal of certain articles of furniture in the church allowed to be illegal. The archbishop, in reply, promised that, in the event of his becoming guardian of the diocese of Rochester by the investiture of the Bishop of St. Alban's, he would give all these questions his most serious and careful attention. The deputation then thanked his grace and withdrew.

"THE LIVING VOICE OF THE CHURCH."—The question is often asked, says the *Record*, what have the bishops done with the Memorial sounding the tocsin of rebellion in the Church? The Upper House of Convocation one day opened with closed doors, and a High Church correspondent of the *Guardian* remarks, "It is morally certain the Memorial was discussed." But still the bishops are dumb and make no response, unless it is to be found in the Bishop of Winchester's demand for a *Monster Convocation*. The *Guardian's* correspondent notes his lordship's own demand, and adds that this is not the thing "the Church demands." He says that it is neither a Convocation as it is, nor can it be, even according to Bishop Harold Browne, "Convocation reformed," for his lordship rightly says that Convocation is an estate of the realm, but as to a *Monster Convocation*, the *Guardian's* correspondent writes, "The voice of the Church is not a *Monster Congress* :—This is the theory of the Bishop of Winchester, who said—We have come to a crisis. I hear a loud demand for the living voice of the Church, and I feel satisfied that the living voice of the Church will never be heard in such a way as that it shall be listened to by the country unless it be the voice of the clergy and laity. The Bishop of Winchester is a theologian whom every Churchman respects; surely his lordship will see that his proposition ignores the distinction between the *ecclesia docens* and the *ecclesia discens*. Such a gathering, as a judge in articles of faith, has never been known in the Catholic Church. The medium of the living voice is surely not the *bellua multorum capitum*. These are the fallacies: we must get rid of them before we develop the true and Catholic doctrine of the living voice of the Church."

## Religious and Denominational News.

A telegram has been received from Melbourne announcing the safe arrival of the Rev. Thomas Jones and his family.

The chairman of the London Missionary Society for the current year is T. L. Devitt, Esq., the deputy chairman, the Rev. J. Hiles Hitchens.

A few days ago the Rev. C. H. Spurgeon laid the foundation-stone of a Baptist chapel in Trinity-road, Upper Tooting. An embossed silver trowel was presented to him on this occasion. Mr. Spurgeon has himself contributed 250*l.* to the building fund.

METHODIST NEW CONNEXION CONFERENCE.—At the annual conference of the Methodist New Connexion, which commenced at Leeds on Monday, the Rev. J. Medcraft, of Nottingham, was elected president. It was stated that there had been a net increase of 1,164 members during the year, and that the funds had been considerably augmented.

DR. LINDSAY ALEXANDER, having accepted the newly-endowed Chair of Theology in the Congregational Hall, Edinburgh, has resigned the pastorate of the Augustine Church. The condition was attached to the deed of endowment that the new professor should give his entire time to the duties of his chair. Dr. Alexander has been minister of the Augustine Church congregation for more than forty years. Miss Baxter, of Ellangowan, Dundee, has given the munificent sum of 10,000*l.* as a permanent endowment of the Professorship of Systematic Theology referred to.

BLACKBURN.—On Tuesday evening, May 29, a public meeting was held in Montague-street Congregational Church, Blackburn, to take leave of the Rev. John Morgan, who is removing to London. There was a large attendance of sympathetic friends. The chair was occupied by Mr. William Nicol, one of the deacons. Speeches full of kindly and brotherly sentiments were delivered by the chairman, by Mr. Thomas Dixon, the church treasurer, and by the Revs. J. M. Stott, M.A., Abraham Foster, M.A., J. Douglass, M.A., Isaac Davies, Ira Boseley, John Vaughan, and J. Clyde. During the evening a purse containing 45*l.* 10*s.* was presented to the retiring pastor. All the speakers testified to the value of Mr. Morgan's work in Blackburn, and expressed hope that a similar work might be done in London.

THE GOSPEL IN ITALY.—A meeting called by the South-West London Protestant Institute to hear Signor A. Gavazzi on the religious condition of Italy, was held on Wednesday evening, in the large hall of the Pimlico Rooms, Pimlico, Major G. G. Cooper Gardiner in the chair. There was a good attendance. The Chairman briefly intro-

duced the lecturer, who gave a detailed account of the progress of the Gospel in Italy, where thousands are being converted from the bondage of Romanism to the worship of the Saviour in the purity of the Gospel. He concluded an eloquent address by an appeal to the people of this country to keep inviolate the glorious Reformation, and his stirring denunciation of Ritualism as traitorous and as veiled Romanism, was heartily applauded. The Rev. H. E. Fox, vicar of Christ Church, Westminster, moved the following resolution in an able and eloquent speech:—"That this meeting, in tendering their best thanks to the Rev. A. Gavazzi for his address this evening, rejoice in the advance of the Gospel in Italy, and the meeting express their opinion that the emancipation of that country will only be complete when the people throw off the yoke of the Romish priesthood, and embrace the ancient Catholic doctrine taught by the Apostles." The Rev. Wm. Exton seconded the resolution in an earnest address, which was briefly supported by Mr. Edward Harper, and adopted unanimously. A collection was made towards the support of the schools under the care of Signor Gavazzi.

MILTON MOUNT CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH.—The fifth anniversary of the opening of the above church was held on the 6th inst. The Rev. J. Baldwin Brown, B.A., conducted Divine service in the afternoon. There was a large congregation. In the evening at 6.30 a public meeting was held in the church. Samuel Morley, Esq., M.P., presided. There were upwards of twenty ministers from London and the county of Kent present. After prayer by the Rev. J. I. Knaggs, the meeting was addressed by the Revs. Dr. Aveling, W. Roberts, B.A. (Notting Hill), J. H. Wilson, T. Blandford, Herne Bay; A. Turner, Ashford; J. Spaven, Windermere; Wm. Guest, the pastor, James Spicer, Esq., jun., who, with the chairman, congratulated the church on the success of their enterprise. The financial statement was reported as follows: The congregation had raised during the last year, for building purposes alone, 862*l.* This included the proceeds of a bazaar towards which there had been sympathy from friends elsewhere. This made a total raised during the short time the church had been in existence of 5,700*l.*, which sum was exclusive of moneys raised for general objects. There was remaining a debt of 800*l.*, but 300*l.* of this was a loan free of interest, from the English Congregational Chapel Building Society. Mr. Morley assured the meeting that he should be happy to assist in the last effort to remove the liability. The collections amounted to 105*l.*

OPEN-AIR MISSION.—By permission of Dr. Angus, the annual gathering of the friends and workers of this useful mission was held at Holford House, Regent's Park College, on Friday, the 8th instant. A preliminary prayer-meeting was held in the library at 4.30, after which nearly 400 assembled in a capacious tent erected on the lawn. The Earl of Shaftesbury took the chair at seven, and Dr. Angus read a portion of Scripture and opened the meeting with prayer. Mr. John Macgregor, the honorary secretary, next read brief extracts from the report, from which it appeared that the operations of the year included 271 special visits to races, fairs, regattas, fêtes, and special missions in various parts; the occupation of one hundred fixed positions in London for open-air preaching, and the holding of fifty-eight conferences for the promotion of the work; the circulation of nearly three-quarters of a million tracts; with a roll of 200 members and eight auxiliaries, besides many local bands and associations—the whole being accomplished at a cost of 829*l.* Reference was also made to the appointment of Mr. Garwin Kirkham as travelling secretary. Interesting addresses were afterwards delivered by the Rev. J. P. A. Fletcher (of the London City Mission), the Rev. Dr. Paterson, and the Rev. S. Hebditch. Mr. Oliphant Fergusson and General Burrows moved and seconded a vote of thanks to the noble chairman, who, in reply, urged the need for extended open-air preaching.

LIVINGSTONE MEMORIAL.—On Saturday afternoon the memorial-stone of the Livingstone Medical Missionary Memorial Training Institution was laid in the Cowgate, Edinburgh, by the Rev. Dr. Moffat, the African missionary, in presence of a large number of spectators, including the Right Hon. Sir John M'Neill, G.C.B., Lady Emma M'Neill, Mrs. Bruce, daughter of Dr. Livingstone, and many of the leading citizens. After prayer by the Rev. Dr. Murray Mitchell, Sir John M'Neill, who presided, referred to the labours of Dr. Livingstone, who, he said, was the pioneer of Christianity and civilisation in a country which was before his time believed to be without population. The stone was laid by Dr. Moffat, who expressed the gratification he felt at seeing the commencement of a building for training others to take up the glorious work in which his son-in-law, Dr. Livingstone, spent his life, and in the interests of which he died. Dr. Moffat had no medical training, and the missionary who went out with him knew still less than he did about medicine. He afterwards improved his knowledge by studying some valuable medical books, and was able to doctor in some way or other, and the longer he lived and the more experience he got, the more valuable were his services. He had witnessed much of Livingstone's success in surgery, the sacrifices he made, and how he exposed himself to danger in order to save life. He had left a bright name behind—one that would be well remembered by this insti-



tution. He concluded by saying that so long as he was able to stir his tongue he would plead for this institution. The buildings would cost 10,000*l.*, of which from 6,000*l.* to 7,000*l.* had been raised.

HAMMERSMITH.—On Monday, May 4, the Rev. Walter Baxendale, late of Claremont Chapel, Islington, was recognised as pastor of Albion Chapel, Hammersmith. A well-attended service was held in the afternoon, when the sermon was preached by the Rev. Dr. Aveling, the devotional portion being conducted by the Rev. Joseph Halsey. After tea, to which a goodly number of friends sat down, a public meeting was held in the church, presided over by the Rev. Dr. Raleigh. Prayer having been offered by the Rev. Edward H. Jones, the Chairman said the congregation and friends were present that night to bid Mr. Baxendale welcome. He called that a solemn, a beautiful, and a touching meeting. It entered into their religious life, and touched well-springs that were deepest. Might the union formed between pastor and people that night be all they mutually desired. Mr. C. Cook, on behalf of the deacons, read a brief paper giving a history of the congregation now worshipping in Albion Chapel. It had been served by a succession of godly ministers, the Rev. Thomas Carter, who last occupied the pulpit, being compelled to resign last year owing to failing health. The Rev. W. Baxendale touched upon his connection with Claremont Chapel, and his subsequent labours as an evangelist. He also traced the steps which led to his acceptance of the unanimous call to Albion Chapel. The Rev. J. Boyle, in the name of the Islington friends, congratulated pastor and people on the cordial feeling which had attended the settlement. Mr. Owen, a deacon from Claremont Chapel, offered a few words of congratulation, as also did the Rev. E. Price and Mr. Henry Wright, J.P., the latter of whom spoke as a deacon from the neighbouring congregation of Kensington. The Rev. G. D. Macgregor said that he had every reason to feel that with the proceedings of that evening the congregation was entering upon a season of prosperity. The new relationships recognised that night would be beneficial, not only to the congregation, but to the whole neighbourhood. Other addresses followed, and, after a vote of thanks to the chairman, the meeting was brought to a close with the benediction.

THEATRE SERVICES IN LONDON.—On Tuesday evening a meeting on behalf of the special religious services in theatres, halls, and mission-rooms was held at the residence of Mr. George Hanbury, in Portman-square. Lord Shaftesbury presided. The proceedings were opened by Mr. Hanbury, who said the movement, since its establishment eighteen years ago, had been most successful, the theatres and mission-rooms connected with the work having always been crowded. The poor had a decided objection in the first instance to go into a regular place of worship, and the special services were intended as a sort of "recruiting movement." He felt confident that, having been brought to a knowledge of the Gospel, those attending the services would attach themselves to some established congregation. The funds were not in a satisfactory condition. About 2,500*l.* was required, of which only 1,500*l.* had been collected, and he trusted the deficiency would shortly be made up. Addresses on behalf of the mission services were made by Mr. Sawell, the secretary, Mr. G. Williams, a member of the committee, the Rev. N. Sherbrooke, the Rev. Dr. Nolan, Mr. F. Bevan, Mr. N. B. Downing, Mr. Lydall, and the Rev. L. Harris, the organising secretary. Lord Shaftesbury, in the course of a forcible missionary address, said, as the chairman of the committee from the beginning, he could not but feel a deep interest in saving, if possible, "this great effort" from total collapse. He was satisfied that the services had produced the most beneficial effects both in raising the tone and improving the behaviour of the classes for whom they were intended. Poor people felt a certain freedom in going to hear a service at a theatre. It was quite true that not two per cent. of the working classes went to a regular place of worship. Prejudice existed in the minds of many persons against preaching in theatres; but the doctrine consecrated the place, and the place did not desecrate the doctrine. This movement, then, was the only way of reaching the people, and it was undoubtedly true that the theatre services had increased the attendance at regular places of worship. Seeing how many thousands they had reached, and how many more they might reach if they had but the means, how was it possible that people could hold their hands? He earnestly hoped the movement would be warmly encouraged. The proceedings terminated with votes of thanks to Lord Shaftesbury and to Mr. Hanbury.

WATFORD.—On Thursday last, the 7th inst., the memorial-stone of an introductory church was laid by Mr. Samuel Morley, M.P., who, in referring to some objections that had been raised to such a building, defended the movement on the ground that there was not at present religious accommodation for more than one-quarter of the population of the town, a fact which he stigmatised as a disgrace to the Christian community. In repudiating legislative attempts to make people Christians, and believing that State interference in matters of religion had always done mischief and no good, Nonconformists incurred great responsibilities, and it was their duty to look after cases of negligence, and endeavour to supply what was lacking. He was never more sick than to-day of any mere attempts to spread denominationalism, as he

believed they had been an enormous injury to the cause of religion. As Nonconformists they had no worldly advantage to offer to induce people to attend their places of worship. Their simple offer was hearty sympathy with the condition of the masses and a desire to do them good. Believing that the truth they held was of inestimable value, they desired its extension. Evangelical Nonconformists of the present day protested that Dissent was not so much dissent from the Articles of the Church of England as the fuller assertion of them; for it was notorious that those articles were more firmly and generally held by Dissenters than they were by many in the Church itself. One of the strangest facts in history was that the creed of the Church of England, having been rejected by the majority of its members, had found an asylum in the hearts and teachings of those whom it stigmatised as schismatics and treated as outcasts. The great problem of the future was whether the Church of Christ was to work through agencies the outgrowth of its own spirit, or through machinery provided by political power. He expressed his conviction as a member of Parliament that there was nothing so insecure as an Act of Parliament, which, made to-day, might be repealed to-morrow, and urged the consequent necessity for a more individual sense of responsibility on the part of the people of England in regard to the subject of religion. He believed in Congregationalism as the best expression of New Testament teaching, and advocated the closer union of Independents and Baptists for increased strength in their mutual work. From a statement read by the Rev. Alfred Cave, B.A., the pastor, we learn that services were commenced, by the Hertfordshire Congregational Association, in the Corn Exchange, in the winter of 1875-6, and, aided by a grant from the Home Missionary Society, have been continued to the present time. Attention was directed to Watford by the fact that Congregationalism was unrepresented, and that there was great need of further religious accommodation in the rapidly increasing town. In October, 1876, the Rev. Alfred Cave was invited to take the ministerial superintendence of the movement, and early in the present year a Church was formed, and a Sunday-school commenced. The temporary building, now in course of erection on a most eligible site, will accommodate 350 persons, and may be used as a school and lecture-hall, when a permanent church is erected. A public meeting was held in the Corn Exchange in the evening, Mr. Henry Wright, J.P., presiding, when addresses were delivered by the Revs. W. M. Statham, H. D. Wilson, and other ministers.

has seldom been witnessed. A resolution was actually proposed in the Limerick Town Council that the mayor should issue a proclamation for a public illumination, and the man who proposed it has had for some time a green flag over his house, without the Crown, indicative of his hatred of the English monarch and of so-called English rule. I believe the motion was carried—the papers report so—but the mayor or his *locum tenens* declined to be made a fool and a tool. I cannot write more this week, except to say that priestcraft is growing more rampant, and is stirring up the people, and it is incumbent on all Protestants to watch carefully the efforts of ultra-Ultramontanism in this island. Many amusing tales are told of the lengths to which some of the holy fathers—save the mark—can go in their tomfoolery. In the Christmas festivals of 1876 in the Church of the Redemptorist Fathers, they gave to the people as spiritual food the Virgin, the Holy Child, with Joseph, and the three wise men, the latter stuffed with hay. A live donkey was by the side of these historic figures, but at a set time the holy fathers felt the pangs of hunger and thirst, and—as it was not Lent, they went to regale themselves with the good things of this life, leaving the care of the historic group to a boy who, however, fell asleep. The Irish donkey—by no means an ass—seized the opportunity, and ate up the three wise men and was about to finish Joseph, when the lad awoke and ran in agony to the jovial celebrants of the larder, and told the tale that the donkey had devoured the magi, and had begun by way of dessert to tackle the hay figure of Joseph. The donkey and the boy had to do penance, but the tale is still told in one form or other to the chagrin of the priests. I may add that the mottoes in the city yesterday were some absurd and some blasphemous. The passage in Heb. i. 11, 12, was applied to the reign and throne of His Holiness. If you have space next week I will state more to your readers—if I can find time—concerning this idolatrous city and its celebration of the jubilee.

Very faithfully yours,

H. C.

Limerick, June 11, 1876.

#### THE CLERGY AND BOARD SCHOOLS.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—Perhaps you will allow me a little space to give a short history illustrative of the purpose which the clergy of the Church of England think Board schools ought to be made to serve. I live in the parish of Kingswinford—two-thirds of which lie within the Black Country of South Staffordshire, and the remaining third in the green borderland of that dismal district. There is a population approaching forty thousand, the bulk of it iron-workers, colliers, nail and chain makers, glass workers, and workers in brickyards. The chief proprietor is the Earl of Dudley, whose "influence" in the neighbourhood, especially of his large ironworks and extensive collieries, in the parish, is paramount. The old parish has been divided into six ecclesiastical districts; but, nevertheless, Dissent is very strong. Chapels, belonging chiefly to the various bodies of Methodists, have been built all over the parish, and these provide nearly two sittings for one provided by the Church. The proportion of Dissenters to Churchmen is, at any rate, as five to three. In the month of February last there was a school board election. During the previous three years the Dissenters had been in a majority at the board, much to the chagrin of the Churchmen; and months before the last election careful and elaborate preparations were made to wrest power from the hands of the Dissenters. One of the candidates nominated on behalf of the Church party was the Rev. T. L. Claughton, son of the Bishop of Rochester and nephew of the Earl of Dudley, who has just recently been appointed vicar of the district church of St. Mary's, and another was one of the chief agents of the Earl of Dudley. Nothing was left undone that influence could do to secure a majority for the Church candidates. All the great employers of labour in the parish were enlisted in the cause, so far at least as allowing their names to be published as members of committee—a proceeding which, in consequence of the badness of trade had very considerable effect, many thinking that if they voted contrary to their masters they would lose their situations. Then nearly all the clubs and persons "girt with a little brief authority" in the Earl of Dudley's offices and works were at hand as canvassers, and these were spurred to exertion by the understanding which was prevalent—if it was not directly intimated—that it was the Earl's particular desire that the

#### Correspondence.

##### IRELAND AND THE POPE.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—If any English optimist imagines that the disestablishment of the Prelatic Irish Church from mere policy, and the amendment of the land laws, have made or will make Ireland loyal, prosperous and happy, a visit to the south and south-west districts of the Emerald Isle will soon correct his opinion, though perhaps the ecclesiastical mind of Mr. Gladstone may see less to object to than do many who have studied Irishmen and Irish questions in Ireland. I am of opinion that "An Oxford Liberal" in your last week's issue is right in his judgment of Mr. Gladstone, and I may add that if the religion of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ as revealed in the new-covenant Scriptures is the truth, we must not look to Mr. Gladstone for a wise and just disestablishment project for England unless he becomes possessed of a great deal more of the steady, sturdy, and stalwart faith of a Calvin or Cromwell. To those students of history who imagine that the world is governed by politics and statesmen alone, and that God has long ago ceased to trouble himself much with human affairs political questions, as policy, are pre-eminent and predominant. There are other students of history who give political questions and statesmen a very important place, who are of opinion that there is such a thing as "principle" which ought to govern political leaders on all questions connected with the religious and ecclesiastical questions of the present day. Disestablishment in Ireland was a novel experiment, but the same question in England must be fought with a different spirit and far nobler and juster ends. I cannot, in this letter, say all I wish on Synodical Prelacy and Popery and their relation to spiritual Christianity and the Free Churches, for I wish just for a moment to draw the attention of your readers to the recent celebration of the Jubilee of the Pope in Limerick. This semi-idolatrous celebration was set apart for last Sunday week, but the skies manufactured so many wet blankets that the project was postponed until yesterday, when it was duly celebrated by bands, guilds, and an effigy of Pío Nono clad in sumptuous attire, &c., &c. In the evening an illumination of the city took place with fireworks, and a more complete desecration of the Lord's Day



Church should have a majority on the next school board. The Nonconformists held public meetings all over the parish, and by these and the issue of handbills setting forth the issues that were being fought out, endeavoured to stir up the Nonconformist spirit and consolidate their forces. Many, however, "went back and walked no more with them," interest being stronger than principle, while many more, afraid of compromising themselves, abstained from taking any part in the election. Nevertheless, the Nonconformist party voted in a solid phalanx—in fact, did as their leaders told them—and came out of the election with a majority on the board, though with a minority of votes which represented some 150 of fearful or unprincipled Nonconformists.

One of the first questions which the Board had to deal with was a question relating to the schools of St. Mary's district, which had been Church schools. About two years ago the trustees found they could not carry them on, and negotiated their transfer to the board. A rent of 50*l.* a year was to be paid by the board; but it was subsequently found that, inasmuch as public money had been expended in the erection of the schools, the Department would not allow the board to pay, or the trustees to receive, more than a nominal rent of 5*s.* a year. While matters were in this position a vacancy occurred in the vicarage of St. Mary's, and Mr. Claughton was appointed. The new vicar did not like the idea of giving up a school to the board on the above terms; and, as it became necessary to decide whether the trustees should keep them or give them over to the board, he called a meeting of his parishioners to lay the matter before them, and solicit such support for the schools as would enable them to be carried on in connection with the Church. Now, Mr. Claughton made a speech at this meeting, some points of which are rather noteworthy. He stated that all the schools under the board, with the exception of St. Mary's, had Dissenting masters and mistresses, and that if such were placed in St. Mary's Schools, Church work would be hampered to a degree that he could not describe. "They would be a most fearful drag on the Church work, and one which Churchmen would be very sorry indeed, in a short time, to see in progress." But as if this were not a state of circumstances sufficiently dreadful, the rev. gentleman went on to tell his audience that the present under-master was not only a Dissenter, but was secretary to the Liberal and Nonconformist Association of Kingwinford, and as he might succeed the present master of the board at the schools "they knew what would be the case." At the last meeting of the School Board attention was called to these statements by Nonconformist members, and Mr. Claughton was compelled to confess that when he said so he had not sufficiently informed himself as to the facts when he said that, with the exception of St. Mary's Schools, all the other schools under the Board had Dissenting masters and mistresses, there being among the eight principal teachers, four belonging to Nonconformists and four to the Church, the latter having been all appointed by the Nonconformists. His excuse was that he had no idea his speech would be reported. But the point which has an interest for the general public is that which embodies the idea that Dissenting teachers in board schools will hamper Church work. The clergy do not like school boards, but in those districts in which they must endure them, their policy is to try to make the schools under the board nurseries of the Church. Persons who, like Mr. Claughton, are "born in the purple," almost fancy that the world is made for them, and it appears the most natural thing that can be that board schools supported by public money should be used for Church purposes. It never seems to have occurred to the rev. gentleman that the assumption that a board school, carried on for the benefit of the general public, should be a feeder to the Church, savoured of arrogance, which people who do not belong to the Church would be likely to resent. No, the only thing that appeared condemnable to him was that a Dissenter should occupy a situation in a school within his district. He might be an excellent teacher, his life and conduct might be without reproach; but he might hamper the work of the privileged sect—that is to say, though he might make the children under his care read well, write a good hand, and do sums accurately, he was not likely to busy himself in implanting in their young minds a profound veneration for "the Church as by law established." It did not matter though money drawn from ratepayers, of whom the bulk are Dissenters, went to support the schools. A person who, under Mr. Claughton's very nose, preferred the chapel to the

Church, was clearly a person to whom it was deplorable to entrust the training of the young.

I don't suppose that Mr. Claughton in this was consciously arrogant or consciously unjust. To such as he the Church is part of the very system of things, and Dissenters are people who, having separated from the Church, must take the consequences. In the old slavery days in the United States, slavery was held by the men of the South to be the ordinance of God, and it was authoritatively laid down by the chief justice that "a black man had no rights which a white man was bound to respect." So when the State takes a sect under its special patronage and protection, allows it the sole usufructs of vast endowments, and allies it with privileged classes in such a manner as to turn its administration into a gigantic system of outdoor relief for aristocratic families—when all this is done there grows up a class of Churchmen who think that Dissenters have no rights which Churchmen are bound to respect. Nothing can be more natural. That, however, can be no reason for Dissenters quietly acquiescing. But it is unfortunate that many, especially among the Methodist bodies, quietly admit all the assumptions of the clergy. This parish is but a sample of others, and here, as I have stated, though the Dissenters are as five to three, the Church was able to poll a majority of votes at the school board election, and a Church clergyman is able to talk as if public schools were a mere appanage of the Church. There are still large numbers of Nonconformists who do not understand the principles which they profess. A process of education is sadly wanted in some quarters. Above all a spirit of independence is wanted to resent those claims for preference continually being put forward by the clergy of the Church as if they were self-evident truths.

Your obedient servant,  
O. P.

Kingwinford, June, 1877.

#### SKETCHES FROM THE GALLERY.

HOUSE OF COMMONS, Monday Night.

Irish affairs—or rather Irishmen—continue to occupy the time of the House of Commons in an increasing measure. To-night, for example, they have engrossed by far the larger number of working hours, without succeeding in saying much that was new, or indeed without failing to repeat a good deal that is exceedingly familiar. They began early in the evening, at a time when the House thought it was in a fair way to get through the questions without interruption. Captain Pim asked a question about the Fenian prisoners, a subject which Mr. O'Connor Power has in an especial manner made his own. Judging from the curious silence on the part of Irish members, it would seem that they do not care to have efforts made by Saxons to remedy their grievances. Mr. Cross gave rather a favourable answer to Captain Pim, intimating that the time was not far distant when such of the prisoners as were not absolutely convicted on a capital charge might be released.

Then up jumped Mr. O'Connor Power, and, in an emphatic manner, which contrasted strongly with the cold aspect of the House, annoyed at this interruption of business, and determined not to prolong the scene by participation in it, the hon. member protested against Mr. Cross's innocent use of the word "political." "The prisoners are political prisoners," Mr. O'Connor Power said, or rather shouted, in order that he might have an opportunity of saying this and of protesting against poor Mr. Cross's unfortunate adjective, he moved the adjournment of the debate. It seemed that there was no one to back him, even on his own side. But in a crisis like this Mr. Parnell and Mr. Biggar are not wanting, and whilst the former placed the motion in order by seconding it, the latter rose and cheerfully seized the unexpected opportunity of making a speech. Several Irish members, including the Major fresh from his haymaking, took part in the discussion. But English and Scotch members, with the exception of Mr. Anderson, abstained from participation in the irregular debate, and it came to a conclusion by the amendment being withdrawn, a course against which Mr. Biggar vainly protested.

The Irish members were up again as soon as the questions were over, wanting to have a Local Government Board and a Board of Works in Ireland—presumably for the pleasure of having two additional officers to bully in Parliament. This also came to nothing, and the House went into committee, when once more the irrepressible Irishmen appeared, led on by Mr. O'Connor Power, who, it is said, is clutching at the mantle which Mr. Butt is by no means indisposed to cast off his shoulders.

It was the vote for the Secret Service money to which they objected, expressing their firm conviction that the whole of the money was spent in Ireland, arguing that if this was not true why did not Ministers say so? This vote for Secret Service is an old bone of contention with Liberals below the gangway. They have fought it through many Sessions, long before the policy of obstruction became a part of Parliamentary procedure. But they had no jealousies on the subject, and welcomed an addition to their forces which enabled them to poll as many as forty and forty-three in two several divisions which they took against the vote.

In the House of Lords to-night the Duke of Richmond has laid on the table the amendments to the Burials Bill, which he says are merely verbal. I have not yet seen them, but if this description be accurate it is clear that the Government have made up their minds not even to pretend to push the bill further through this session. Had they accepted Lord Harrowby's clause it would have appeared that they were desirous of getting the lion out of the path whilst he is still tractable. But it is a procedure quite in accordance with the policy of Lord Beaconsfield's Government to put off the evil day if possible. Mr. Osborne Morgan has been trying for several nights to get a favourable place on the paper for bringing forward a resolution in the House, but has not yet succeeded. He will continue to-day, and should he find a favourable opening, will bring forward a resolution, the division on which may be useful as assisting the Government to make up their minds on the question. But, should he fail, he will at least have the satisfaction of knowing that the question has considerably advanced this session in the direction which has hitherto proved impenetrable.

The record of the week, so far as business is concerned, is not encouraging. On Thursday the House got into committee on the Prisons Bill at a comparatively early hour; but at the outset they were met by Dr. Kenealy, who had quite a series of clauses, every one of which he moved. It is probable that the member for Stoke would not have divided on each one had he been left to himself; but Mr. Parnell and Mr. Biggar, who are great adepts at seizing any chance ally in their policy of obstruction that presents itself, backed up the Doctor by as many speeches as the rules of the House permitted them to make, and then insisted upon dividing on every new clause. Thus the evening wore away, and at its close the Prisons Bill was not in practical degree advanced beyond the stage at which it stood in the morning.

On Friday supply was down as the first order, and as the money votes are in a backward condition, Mr. W. H. Smith was in hopes that he would be able to make some progress. Against this intention the debate on Mr. P. A. Taylor's motion for opening museums on Sunday did not greatly militate, being confined within reasonable limits. The debate was an interesting one, more especially by reason of Mr. Forster's public announcement of his conversion to the cause with which Mr. Taylor's name has so long been associated. Mr. Gladstone was present during the debate, and apparently with difficulty restrained himself from delivering a speech. There was at least one critical moment when he was about to rise, but the member whom he desired to follow, not sitting down at the moment when he had made a feint of doing so, Mr. Gladstone had time to think over the matter, and decided not to speak. He voted, however, against the motion, whilst Mr. Bright, Mr. Goschen, and Mr. Forster voted in favour of it. Nearly all the Roman Catholic members voted with Mr. Taylor.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer, questioned to-night as to the progress of public business, assumed a very dejected air. He did not repeat the now familiar joke—with a significant look towards the part of the House where Mr. Biggar and Mr. Parnell sit—about the impossibility of saying what would happen. All that he could speak about with any confidence for the next week or two, is the Universities Bill, the Prisons Bill, and Supply, which must be had at all hazards. He also announced that the Indian Budget would be brought in before starts in fresh directions were made. It is now evident that this will be an almost barren session, and that though the Government were careful to promise little their performances, will be considerably less. Amongst other bills of which there is little hope is the Valuation Bill.

At the twenty-second annual meeting of the British Equitable Assurance Company, held on the 24th ult., the directors reported the issue of 2,348 new policies, assuring 449,410*l.*, and the payment for claims of 41,869*l.*; 60,255*l.* had been added to the accumulative fund, which was raised thereby to 500,097*l.*



## SUNDAY OPENING OF MUSEUMS, &amp;c.

In the House of Commons on Friday, a large number of petitions for and against Mr. Taylor's motion for the opening of museums on Sundays was presented—one, of which Colonel Beresford had charge, being stated to contain 36,000 names, and to be 1,556 ft. in length. Mr. Bright presented three petitions from congregations in Birmingham against the motion.

On the motion for going into committee of supply,

Mr. P. A. TAYLOR moved a resolution declaring the desirability of giving greater facilities for the recreation and instruction of the people, by opening the national museums and galleries for some hours on Sundays. Were it not, he said, for the antecedents of this question he would have doubted the necessity of producing the slightest argument to convince the House of Commons of the wisdom of throwing open the national institutions for the benefit of those amongst the community who enjoyed only one leisure day in the week. Since he brought forward the subject three years ago an obvious change had come over the feeling of the country in regard to it, and there was now a growing conviction, not only among the clergy, but the press, that the opening of museums on Sundays would be an advantage, the trying of the experiment in some of our large towns having produced none of those evil results that had been anticipated. (Hear.) The objections based on religious grounds had disappeared, and considerations of a social and political character only were urged, but those considerations were plants taken from the soil of Sabbatarianism, and could not exist out of it. (Hear.) Of course their venerable friend the Continental Sunday would be brought up again—(laughter)—but he would ask persons who knew anything of the dens and slums of our crowded cities, and who also knew something of those on the continent, whether they were satisfied that our mode of spending the Sabbath was the wiser? (Hear, hear.) The Queen having seen some villagers in Scotland employed on Sunday in gathering in the harvest had expressed her opinion that it was a necessary work. (Cheers.) That was a wise observation, but after that who should say that a few persons should not be allowed to minister at the British Museum or National Gallery in order to garner in a richer harvest for the intellect and imagination of the masses? (Cheers.) It would be said that this was only getting in the thin end of the wedge, but the thin end of the wedge had been inserted years ago, and he was proposing now an extension of a practice which already existed rather than an advance on that practice. Nobody was asking for the theatres to be opened, but if the House did not give way to the demand now made they might subsequently find the outside forces too strong for them, and then many things might be dragged in which the advocates of the present proposal did not desire. (Hear, hear.) The hon. member described what was done in regard to the Sunday opening of museums and libraries on the continent and in America, and pointed out that in our own country the Crystal Palace, the Albert Hall, and the Zoological Gardens were open—to shareholders—(ironical cheers)—on Sundays, whilst the public had access to Kew Gardens and Hampton Court—(cheers)—and the Home Secretary had done his best to keep open the Brighton Aquarium. (Cheers.) The Botanical Gardens in Dublin were opened on Sundays—indeed, it was threatened that if they were closed on that day the Government allowance would be withdrawn. (Hear, hear.) Mr. Taylor then proceeded to read extracts from the letters he had received showing the beneficial effects which had resulted in regard to those places of recreation already opened on Sundays in London and the provincial cities. Among those who wrote bearing their testimony in this direction were Dr. Hooker, the chairman of the Birmingham Free Library, the secretary of the Royal Zoological Society in Dublin, the curator of the Kelvin Museum in Glasgow, the Rev. S. Hansard, and others; whilst the Duke of Westminster wrote as to the great success which had attended the opening of his private grounds and mansion to ticket-holders on Sunday afternoons. He would ask those Sabbatarians who opposed this movement how they could consistently allow the Duke of Westminster to endanger the souls of so many thousands of his fellow-creatures simply because he did it in his private house? (Ironical cheers and laughter.) Everybody was lamenting the prevalence of drunkenness and the working man's partiality for public-houses, and yet Parliament would do nothing to put before him higher amusements and attractions. (Cheers.) Members of that House had their recreation and excitement for every day in the year, and did they suppose that the working man would be content without some change to look forward to after his hard week's toil? He contended that his motion was a most moderate one, and all the opposition, whatever shape it might assume, was based only on an ancient spirit of Sabbatarianism. (Cheers.) That the people desired to avail themselves of the advantages of the national museums when they had the opportunity was shown by statistics. The average number of persons attending the British Museum for nine months was 37,000, while the average during the other three months, in which the great holidays of Easter, Whitsuntide, and Christmas occurred was 74,000. (Hear, hear.) Mr. Poole, the well-known tailor, had obtained the opinion of nine hundred men in the

principal tailoring establishments of London, and he had only found twelve men opposed to this motion. (Hear, hear.) In conclusion, he earnestly appealed to the House to agree to the proposal. (Cheers.)

Lord F. HERVEY seconded the motion because it was both moderate and clear, and one which ought to commend itself to the acceptance of the House. They were all agreed that they ought to give the utmost facilities to all classes to make the fullest use of the national museums and libraries. It was said that to open these institutions would increase the number of trains, cabs, and omnibuses which were running on Sundays; but he did not think there need be much alarm on that head. By passing this resolution they would make the Sunday a better holiday than it was now, because they would make it the means of refinement and instruction to the working classes.

Colonel BERESFORD, who had an amendment on the paper that it was not expedient that places of amusement should be thrown open to the public on Sundays, said he had presented upwards of 200 petitions from all parts of the country praying the House not to agree to the proposal of the hon. member for Leicester. As showing that the popular opinion was not in favour of the motion, he said that in Leicester itself (which Mr. Taylor represents) a petition by 4,000 in its favour had been met in the course of a few hours with one signed by 15,000 against it. Among the members of the Sunday League were Mr. Bradlaugh, Mr. Truelove, Mrs. Besant, and Mr. Watts, who were more or less implicated in those indecent publications now before the courts of law. He hoped the motion would be rejected.

Mr. A. M'ARTHUR said it was no agreeable duty to stand in opposition to his hon. friend and colleague, and to other gentlemen whom he heartily respected. Though he gave his hon. friend the fullest credit for good motives, he was persuaded that the motion was a dangerous one, and a step in the wrong direction, and that it might even do the working classes a real injury. He trusted that the resolution would meet with no better success than had attended that of 1874. He was sorry to think the present proposal the more objectionable of the two. No one ever attempted to interfere with private individuals who might throw open their own galleries on Sundays, as a much-respected nobleman had done in London; and certain corporate institutions had been opened at Birmingham and other places. In the town so ably represented by his hon. friend, the propriety of throwing open on Sundays the museum and free library had been discussed for many years past; and he did not apprehend that the House would in any way interfere with the action of the Corporation. But if the sanction of the House were given to the resolution, it would be published to the world that England had changed her views respecting the observance of Sunday, and all other institutions would speedily be opened also. It was true that the House was informed by a very rev. dean, who was the president of the Sunday Society, and whose generous sympathies none could question, that they desired to go no further than the opening of their public museums and galleries. But the very rev. gentleman would not always be president of that society, and his own extreme good nature might lead him to further concessions to their views. Was he not aware that what he had proposed was merely a small instalment towards the object which his new allies were earnestly contending for? Was he unconscious of the danger of encouraging men to go as far in a wrong direction, or, at all events, in carrying out a dangerous experiment, as they thought they could go with safety? That was a delusion which had proved fatal to many; an important illustration of which was to be found in connection with the communistic movement in Paris a few years ago. They had been told of the wonderfully good effects which the sight of works of art would have, especially if seen on Sunday, and he was not one to undervalue the refining influence of art; but he had yet to learn that art had done much for the promotion of good order, morality, or civil and religious liberty. It was a fact that on the continent museums and other public places of the kind were open on Sundays; but it was also a fact that in Paris and other parts of the continent thoughtful men were conscious of the evil consequences of such desecration, and were endeavouring to bring about a better state of things. (Hear, hear.) His decided conviction was that, instead of diminishing, it would greatly increase the consumption of intoxicating liquors; and perhaps one of the best proofs of this was that the publicans were almost all in favour of the motion of his hon. friend. One of the greatest blessings for working men would be to close public-houses altogether on Sunday, or to provide British workman public-houses where refreshment for *bona fide* travellers might be obtained; but his hon. friend and his supporters would not allow that to be done. Who, he asked, was to fix the standard or draw the line at which they should stop? One rev. gentleman was reported to have said, "They did not wish to destroy or to degrade the Sabbath, but they believed that to open free libraries and museums would be a good thing. If it was right to go to the museums on Saturday, it could not be wrong to go on Sunday." But that argument would carry hon. members who were in favour of the motion further than many of them desired to go. It would apply to horse-racing, theatres, ball-rooms, and music-saloons. A great deal had been said about sympathy with the working classes, but

that sympathy seldom assumed a very practical form; and he believed that, in many instances, if it were not for the pounds, shillings, and pence argument, and the desire to pay good dividends, much less would be heard about the beneficial effects of opening museums and galleries on Sunday. It was also argued that national museums were the property of the nation, and therefore ought to be open to the public. He hoped his hon. friends and supporters did not imagine they constituted the nation. If they did, they were greatly mistaken; if they did not, he trusted they would admit that those who differed from them were entitled to some consideration, especially if they formed the majority, as he believed they did. His impression was that the majority of the working men, having regard to their own interest, would not approve a measure whose tendency was to increase their labour without increasing their income; and he might safely add that those who desired to preserve the rest of Sunday were among the most sober, industrious, loyal, and law-abiding portion of the working-men of this country. The proper observance of the English Sunday tended to create and encourage habits of cleanliness, good order, decency, and self-respect. To the working man Sunday was the only day which he could call his own, and which, if he was wise, he would let no man take from him. Next to the pulpit and the Press no institution had done so much for education as the Sunday school. There were at the present time in England and Wales about 30,000 schools, 500,000 teachers, and between three and four millions of children and young persons receiving instruction on Sunday. If the policy of his hon. friend were adopted, it might induce parents to take their children to museums and galleries or places of amusement where they would receive instruction injurious to their best interests. There never was a time when it was less necessary to open these places than the present. The Saturday half-holiday had now become a custom; there were more general holidays observed than formerly, and large numbers of operatives took Monday for themselves. There ought, therefore, to be no difficulty in their visiting museums and galleries occasionally. The adoption of this motion would increase the amount of Sunday labour, and there was too much of it already. He believed there were upwards of a million persons employed on the Sunday, and every institution opened on that day would add to the number of persons who must work seven days in the week and for six days' wages. In conclusion, he quoted the language of Mr. Emerson, who said that Christianity had given two inestimable advantages—first, the institution of preaching, the speech of man to man; secondly, the Sabbath, the jubilee of the whole world, whose light dawned welcome alike into the closet of the philosopher, into the garret of toil, and into the prison cells, and everywhere suggested, even to the vile, the dignity of spiritual being. "Let it stand," said Mr. Emerson, for evermore, a temple which new light, new love, and new hope shall restore to more than its first splendour to mankind." (Hear, hear.)

Mr. J. LOCKE asserted that the opening of museums and picture-galleries would improve the artistic tastes and social habits of the people.

Mr. W. H. SMITH denied that the question involved in the motion was whether it was preferable that working men should patronise art galleries or places of a more injurious character on Sundays. What was wished for was a declaration by Parliament that the time had come for a great departure from the long-established practice of observing Sunday, but such a proposal was strongly opposed to the feeling and common sense of the country. (Hear, hear.) If this motion were carried it would necessitate employing a number of workmen on Sundays, which was no part of their contract with the State. Beyond that, the hon. member's speech went much further than his motion, and he was evidently in favour of opening places of amusement generally on the Sunday. The great point involved in this matter was whether or not they should preserve the day of rest which had been so long enjoyed by the people of this country, and which had contributed so much to their strength and vigour. Most men who knew what hard work was would agree with him in attaching such high value to the Sunday as a day of rest, and he hoped the House would never do anything which would diminish the hold of that day on the affections of the country. (Cheers.)

Mr. W. E. FORSTER desired briefly to support the motion. (Cheers.) The hon. gentleman the Secretary to the Treasury had put forward one argument that could hardly be sustained when he said that the House was now asked to take a fresh departure. That could hardly be so when not only the gardens at Hampton Court, but the pictures, and when at Kew and the parks were all open and the gardens when bands played in the parks. Hitherto, rather in deference to the opinions of others whom he respected than as a matter of personal conviction, he had felt he could not vote upon this question; but he found the grounds of his hesitation removed on further consideration. There were numbers of persons, young and middle-aged, who did not know what to do with themselves on the Sunday afternoon, and many did what they ought not to do. Many did not go to church at all, and those who did go could not be there all day, and wanted something to occupy their time. If we did not find them anything, they would find something for themselves that might be a great deal worse. Then these museums and galleries really belonged to the people. (Hear, hear.) Some desired to go to



them and others did not, and he desired them to be opened for those who wished to go. They would get no harm, but would rather get good, and why should they be prevented? On a fine day they might take a railway ticket and go into the country; but that was inconvenient on a wet day. They might look at other pictures, but not at those in the Kensington Museum; and that was a position he felt he could maintain no longer. (Hear, hear.) He was not doing anything to keep up the sanctity of the Sabbath Day by supporting this inconsistency. It was a pity that the statements of Mr. Bradlaugh and of many who agreed with him had been quoted, because among the advocates of this measure there were many of the warmest supporters of the observance of Sunday as a day of rest. For a long time he had hesitated, because he feared lest Sunday play should lead to Sunday work, but he found there was no reality in that apprehension. There was in London a great deal of Sunday play and they did not like it, and there was a good deal of Sunday work. If the Government were to accede to this motion, the Secretary to the Treasury would be very rightly asked to incur some expense in providing assistance, so that the *employés* at those institutions should have one day of rest in the week. As to the opening of public-houses and places of refreshment as a consequence of the opening of museums, it must be recollected that the people who would go to them now went somewhere else, and had to secure refreshment in some way. It had been asked to what all this would tend—would they not think it advisable to do everything on Sunday they did on Saturday? Why should they not go to races on Sunday as well as on Saturday? He thought there was a way in which that might be met. Let them ask themselves not what they thought it right to do on Saturday, but what they thought it right to do on Sunday. If they thought it wrong to go and look at pictures on Sunday and take their family with them; undoubtedly they would vote against this motion. But if the enormous majority of them did not think that wrong, why should they prevent their fellow-countrymen from making use of those institutions which, he repeated, belonged to them? The real limit in those matters was not to let legislation go beyond its own proper principle. Directly they attempted to impose on what were called the humbler classes of the community restrictive measures stronger than they thought it desirable to observe themselves and to prevent them from doing anything which they did not think it wrong for themselves or their families to do, he believed they would be getting into exceptional courses which would endanger the authority of the law. (Hear, hear.) He should support the resolution of his hon. friend. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. BLAKE begged to state that he had gone to Trafalgar-square to see what was called the great open-air demonstration in favour of this motion, but he had great difficulty in finding in what part of the square the meeting was held. He asked an inspector of police, who was a better judge of numbers than he could pretend to be, and he was assured that not more than 250 were present. (Hear, hear.) There could be no doubt that the overwhelming majority of petitions presented to the House had been against the resolution. He would give his vote most conscientiously against it.

The House divided, and the numbers were:—

For Mr. Taylor's resolution ...	87
Against ...	229
Majority ...	142

Amongst the members who supported Mr. Taylor were Messrs. John Bright, Jacob Bright, W. C. Brocklehurst, J. Chamberlain, J. Cowen, L. L. Dillwyn, H. Fawcett, I. Fletcher, W. E. Forster, G. Goschen, T. Hankey, E. A. Leatham, A. Macdonald, G. O. Morgan, R. N. Phillips, T. B. Potter, W. Rathbone, G. H. Whalley, B. Whitworth, and Lord R. Churchill, Sir Wilfred Lawson, Sir C. Dilke, Lord A. Russell, Sir R. Wallace, and a number of Irish members.

#### THE RUSSO-TURKISH WAR.

##### ARRIVAL OF THE CZAR.

The Czar arrived at Plojesti, in Roumania (the headquarters of the Grand Duke Nicholas), on June 6, attended by a grand suite, and will, it is believed, remain there for some weeks after the army has crossed the Danube, a movement now expected about the middle of the month. The most extensive and elaborate precautions have been taken to protect him from assassins, the Russian secret police having been sent forward in hundreds. The Emperor is said to look exceedingly well. Prince Gortschakoff accompanies the Czar, but is said to look aged and in ill-health; he feels acutely the loss of his accustomed holiday, and the serious work that the war, with its endless diplomatic consequences, throws upon his shoulders. At the grand reception at the railway station there were present the Austrian, French, American, Danish, and Swedish military *attachés* of the embassies. A Bulgarian deputation presented an address, in which they thank him for having taken into his hands the destiny of their nation and country, thereby fulfilling the traditional hopes of the Bulgarians, who have never lost their faith that their Russian brethren would sooner or later deliver them from an odious bondage. On this subject the *Times* special correspondent says:—"A train arrived, bringing from Galatz, Ibraila, and various stations along the Danube 100 representatives of 'Young Bulgaria,'

well dressed, generally in black clothes, and all intelligent, well-educated young men, who care more for their personal liberty and the honour of their families than for political or economical niceties. They have come to welcome the advent of a deliverer." In the Bulgarian camp there may be about 4,000 soldiers, including many boys scarcely in their teens.

Prince Charles arrived at Plojesti on Thursday, and was received at the railway-station by the son of the Grand Duke Nicholas. On reaching the Imperial residence he was greeted by the Czar. His Majesty and Prince Charles, on horseback, witnessed a march-past of some companies of a Russian *corps d'élite*, and subsequently had a conference, after which the Emperor gave an audience to Baron Stuart, the Russian diplomatic agent in Roumania. In the afternoon a number of foreign officers were presented to His Majesty.

The Emperor arrived on Friday at Bucharest; his reception is thus described by the correspondent of the *Daily Telegraph*:—"The streets were decorated with flags, Venetian masts, evergreens, and flowers; whilst there were brilliant displays of hearthrugs hung from window-sills. Prince Charles's stables produced a really splendid show of equipages and horses, and the bodyguard turned out magnificently. The Emperor sat on the right of the Princess Elizabeth, his two sons facing him, in a State carriage, with four postillions in the State livery of the House of Hohenzollern. The Czar, who looked somewhat pale, but the Czar unusually well and cheerful. In the next carriage were the Grand Dukes Nicholas and Constantine, with Prince Charles on the back seat. Then came Prince Gortschakoff and M. Bratiano, followed by Count Adlerberg and M. Cognalniceano and an enormous suite. As the Czar passed the Jockey Club the ladies showered down bouquets upon him, one of which was smilingly and deftly caught by the Czar, who bowed repeatedly as he passed along. All the members of the Imperial family and the great officers of the Household and State were *en grande tenue*, but wearing white forage caps. I have not seen the Czar in such high spirits for years. The streets were thronged, and every one was in holiday attire, but there was no cheering worth speaking of." The *Times* correspondent also says that the Emperor appeared in good spirits, and adds that His Majesty was bowing and smiling at all the fair women who lined the windows and balconies in the streets through which he passed.

##### PREPARATIONS FOR CROSSING THE DANUBE.

The Russian army is now in position, and only waiting for the Danube to fall low enough to make a crossing practicable, but the river is still high. The Turks at Rustchuk and Widdin, who watch the heights of the Danube as closely as the Russians, believe that the latter mean to cross. They know that boats, pontoons, and all kinds of materials for bridges have been collected at several places on the river, and that whole armies are lying concealed in the rear of those places ready to advance rapidly to the banks of the river and pass over at once. The Russians rely on their superiority in heavy artillery to protect the passage, and upon their engineer corps to throw up entrenchments which will protect the troops when on the other side until a large force has passed over.

A French military paper has reason to believe, from private information which it has received, that on the right, the 9th and 10th corps are assembled between Turnu-Magurelli and Zimnita. In rear, the 8th and 12th corps are echeloned along the railway from Bucharest to Giurgevo. The 7th and 11th corps are said to be concentrated between Oltenitza and Kalarash, while the 4th, 13th, and 14th corps, forming the left wing, occupy the line of the Danube to the north of the Dobrukscha and the shores of the Black Sea from Akermann to Sebastopol.

The Vienna correspondent of the *Times* has the following remarks on the same subject:—

In spite of the secrecy which has naturally been enforced with regard to the movements of the Russian troops, and in spite of the constant changes made in their position, it seems pretty certain that the better part of four *corps d'armée* have been gradually concentrated in the country between the River Aluta and Vede—that is, opposite Sistova and Nicopol—while the other four corps, which are gradually coming down, are still very much scattered about along the line from Giurgevo and Oltenitza to Ibraila, Galatz, and Reni, with a tendency, however, to concentrate about the middle of that long line—namely, between Karaxal and Hirsova, where the long island of Balta extends. From these dispositions it would appear that the points for crossing will be chosen east and west of the Turkish quadrilateral, and that while the eastern column keeps in check the Turkish forces massed in and about the fortresses, the western will act as the field army proper, operating against the flank or rear of the Turkish position. The line chosen for the operation of the western column is a most advantageous one, for along it lie some fair roads over the Balkans—one from Pleyna to Sofia, and the other from Sistova, over the Sifka pass, towards Philippopolis; but there are likewise fair transverse roads to Osmanbazar and Shumla. Widdin, indeed, has to be left on the right flank, but, with the whole Roumanian army facing it and the heavy guns at Kalafat, the risk of Osman Pasha detaching a considerable force to threaten an advancing column is not much to be apprehended. Besides, for the Russians to advance in that direction has the advantage of leading their army directly, as it were, in among the Bulgarians. While in the eastern portion of Bulgaria the Mahomedan is decidedly the prevalent element, from Rustchuk and Osmanbazar the population becomes more scarce, and the pure Bulgarian element gains more and more the upper hand.

The Russians, therefore, provided, of course, they are not stopped by a Turkish field army, may there at once begin the work of administrative organisation, for which they are taking with them all the necessary apparatus. The Bulgarian legion, too, may serve as the nucleus of a native gendarmerie, which could be easily expanded into a small native army. Nor must it be imagined that it would be so very difficult to feed and maintain an army in that country, for all west of Timova is a thriving district, exporting its superfluous produce by the Danube. Lying remote from the Turkish fortresses also, it could not be exhausted like the country nearer them; and when the Danube navigation was closed, hundreds of shiploads of grain were waiting at Lompalanka and other places to be taken up stream. Besides, the country is unusually rich in cattle and sheep, hides and tallow forming another notable article of export.

The correspondent of the *Daily Telegraph* at Sulina has telegraphed particulars of the recent ineffectual attempt of the Russians to destroy the Turkish ironclads at that place with torpedoes. Acting upon directions given by Hobart Pasha, the Turkish vessels were surrounded by guard boats connected with a chain, which was struck by one of six Russian torpedo steam-launches, composing the attack. This boat succeeded in launching a torpedo which exploded against the foremost ironclad, without, however, doing her any great harm; but, the alarm having been given by the circle of boats, the Turks opened a heavy fire on the Russian steam launches, three of which they destroyed. The success of the means employed is considered to have demonstrated the possibility of protecting ships at night against torpedoes. With the exception of six men taken prisoners, all the Russians belonging to the vessels sunk were, it is stated, drowned.

Two Turkish monitors, which had been prevented from ascending the Danube by the torpedoes placed off Hirsova, succeeded on Friday morning in extricating themselves from their position and in reaching Tchernavoda, the terminus of the Kustendje Railway.

##### THE WAR IN ASIA.

The special correspondent of the *Standard* with the Turkish army in Asia telegraphs the following despatch, dated from near Zevin, Thursday:—"I send this from the headquarters of the Turkish army near Zevin, between Soghanli-Dagh and Araxes Ridge. The condition of the Turkish army has improved, and for some days hopes have been entertained that we can assume the offensive. The three Russian corps coming from Ardahan, Kara, and Bayazid are separated by impassable mountains, but Mukhtar Pasha has assembled forty-nine battalions and thirty cannon near the banks of the Araxes. Even in case of partial defeat, the passage across the Deve mountains can be successfully defended. The remainder of the Circassian force has returned to Erzeroum, where a Polish legion has arrived."

According to the last news from Erzeroum, the Russians are advancing. A battle is considered at Constantinople imminent. A bulletin of Mukhtar Pasha, dated the 6th inst., states that the Russians who occupied Olti have withdrawn towards Penek.

The Mohammedan and other inhabitants of Armenia are everywhere accepting Russian government as greatly improving their position. The chiefs and elders of the Kurds of Khatour have given in their submission to General Tergukasoff, and Russian officials have been appointed to administer their territory.

The Grand Duke Michael reported on Sunday that the Terek district of the Caucasus, lately the scene of insurrection, is now tranquil, and that the important district of Daghestan, the native country of Schamyl, and the scene of his exploits, is equally so. The people of Daghestan were the last to bow to the power of Russia, but they have taken no part in the recent movements against the Imperial Government.

Little has been heard of late of the Turkish invasion of the Caucasus; but now in telegrams from Constantinople it is stated that Fazli Pasha has informed the Government that he cannot advance without receiving large reinforcements, and these, it appears, are not forthcoming. In the Turkish capital it is already acknowledged that the campaign in Abhasia is a mistake.

##### RUSSIA AND ENGLAND.

A Paris correspondent of the *Times* writes:—"On Tuesday Count Schouvaloff arrived in Berlin, and left again on Thursday for London. The communication of which he is known to be the bearer will be almost immediately in the hands of the British Cabinet. It is not a Note in the diplomatic sense of the word, nor is it an answer to the English Note, but it is a letter from Prince Gortschakoff in reply to the letter of Lord Derby which Count Schouvaloff took with him to St. Petersburg. In this letter Lord Derby drew the attention of Russia to the various points where English interests would be affected if Russian action extended so far. They were mentioned by Mr. Cross in his speech, and are the Suez Canal and Egypt, Constantinople and the Dardanelles, and the Persian Gulf. The letter of Prince Gortschakoff successively takes up these five points, and explains that Russia does not mean to interfere with any one of them. As regards the Suez Canal, its great international and commercial importance is acknowledged by Prince Gortschakoff, and the most positive assurance is given that Russia does not intend in any way to touch it. As to Egypt, Russia, indeed, thinks herself entitled as a matter of right to carry war thither, as forming part of Turkish territory, but explains that, in point of fact, Egypt lying so far from the range of her military opera-



tions, any action in that direction has never been even taken into consideration. This is even more the case as regards the Persian Gulf, which lies entirely remote from her present field of operations. With respect to the Dardanelles, Russia thinks that so important a maritime passage, forming the connecting link between the Black Sea and the Mediterranean, must always be regulated by international agreement, and not by one or another Power alone. As for Constantinople, she disclaims any intention of acquiring it for herself, though at the same time she could not consent to its possession by any other Christian power. As regards any temporary occupation of that place which may become necessary and ensue in the course of the Russian military achievements the communication is silent. The prince's letter goes on to say that Russia has remained true to her programme, and is aiming only at improving the condition of the Christians in Turkey.

## RUSSIAN POLICY.

It is stated in official circles at St. Petersburg that the Russian Ambassadors in London, Vienna, and Berlin have returned to their posts without having received instructions to enter into any special negotiations. On the other hand, by intercourse with their own Government, they have been placed in a position to represent with great exactness to the Governments to which they are accredited the views which prevailed here since the outbreak of the war. They will, moreover, be in a position to disseminate the reassuring conviction that Russia does not aim at a political transformation of the map of the East, but that Russia's aims, on the contrary, remain the same as heretofore—namely, to protect the Christians in the East, and to obtain for them by means of political guarantees those concessions which were declared by the European Powers in two Conferences to be urgently required. It is further declared that, as far as Russia is concerned, the entrance of revolutionary insurrections into the war will be opposed. The Russian Government will also endeavour to prevent the participation of vassal and neighbouring States, as it has succeeded up to the present by earnestness and determination in avoiding the recommencement of the Servo-Turkish war. Nothing is further removed from the intentions of the Russian Government than to cause fresh European complications. Russia has not changed her purposes since the Conferences. Although she has been forced into the war her efforts will be employed in the same direction as formerly, and will be pursued with energy. For the eventual solution, however, the co-operation of the other Powers remains by no means excluded. Nothing is stated here about a conference of ambassadors at the head-quarters on the Danube, but it is not improbable that the Emperor will, at receptions, take the opportunity to give expression to his unaltered personal intentions.

## ENGLAND AND THE SUEZ CANAL.

Some official Correspondence has been published relative to a proposal made by M. de Lesseps for an international engagement to "neutralise" the Suez Canal—if we may apply that not entirely appropriate term to the state of things which the engagement would create in the Egyptian waterway. M. de Lesseps suggested to Lord Derby that the European Governments should join in an agreement "to maintain the same liberty" of passage which has been enjoyed since the construction of the Canal "to all national or commercial vessels, whatever may be their flag, and without any exception, it being understood that national ships will be subject to the measures which the territorial authority may take to prevent ships in transit from disembarking on Egyptian territory any troops or munitions of war." The English Cabinet have "carefully considered" this proposal, and have been unable to adopt it. They have "come to the conclusion that the scheme proposed in it for the neutralisation of the Suez Canal is open to so many objections of a political character that they could not undertake to recommend it for the acceptance of the Porte and the Powers." But being "deeply sensible of the importance to Great Britain and other neutral Powers of preventing the canal from being blocked up by either of the belligerents in the present war," Her Majesty's Government has "intimated to the Russian Ambassador that an attempt to blockade or otherwise to interfere with the canal or its approaches would be regarded by Her Majesty's Government as a menace to India and as a grave injury to the commerce of the world." They add "that on both these grounds any such step—which Her Majesty's Government hope and fully believe there is no intention on the part of either belligerent to take—would be incompatible with the maintenance by Her Majesty's Government of an attitude of passive neutrality."

## MISCELLANEOUS.

The contingent of Egyptian troops for the Porte, 6,000 men, under the command of Prince Hassan, sailed from Alexandria on Monday evening, escorted by four Turkish men-of-war.

A correspondent of the *Times* at Schumla writes:—"I have over and over again heard it said that there are hundreds of our countrymen in the Turkish army. It is my duty to state that in the army of the Danube there is exactly one. Mr. Prime, a young gentleman of considerable fortune, has the honour to hold a commission as captain in the Sultan's service. Several are at Constantinople seeking commissions, and among them is Lord Maidstone, who in his ardour for military occupa-

tion proposes to leave his bride at Therapia while he is away in the tented field."

The Porte having finally rejected the demands of the Cretan Assembly, the Christian population of the island is now firmly resolved to defend its rights by force of arms, and a general rising is expected. The partial insurrectionary movements in Epirus and Thessaly are assuming a more decided character.

The Imperial ukase issued by the Czar before leaving St. Petersburg calls out another contingent of recruits throughout the Empire. This measure will furnish 218,000 men, being the largest number hitherto mobilised.

On Saturday the Turkish Chamber of Deputies voted the first reading of a proposal of the Financial Committee for the issue of a forced loan of five millions in Turkish caimés, and bearing interest at 10 per cent. All taxpayers, proprietors, merchants, and public functionaries will be required to contribute to this loan. The debate in the Chamber was of a stormy character.

The Sheriff of Mecca is reported to have placed the Sacred Treasury, valued at two millions sterling, at the disposal of the Sultan.

Prince Milan makes no secret of his desire to resume hostilities against the Porte as soon as he gets the *mot d'ordre* from Russia to do so. He has warned the staff of his army that their services will soon be required. But Russia has decided not to give the word. It is decisively settled that Prince Milan will visit the Emperor Alexander on Thursday.

A telegram from Berne announces that the Powers which signed the Geneva Convention have agreed that Turkey may substitute the Crescent for the Red Cross on all hospitals, ambulances, &c. Russia, however, stipulates that Turkey shall promise to respect the Red Cross.

A Christian doctor, who deserted from Trebinje (near Montenegro), gives a gloomy account of the condition of the Turkish army. He says that 2400 have died at Trebinje since the campaign began, that city being made the hospital depot of the army now concentrated at Gatchko, which consists of thirty-six battalions of 300 to 400 each; but of these at least half are ailing, suffering chiefly from scurvy, dysentery and diarrhoea being also very prevalent, and the supplies of proper food being extremely limited. The physicians and surgeons, subject to the fanatical outbreaks of the Mussulmans, are continually menaced, often insulted, and never paid, so that their number—never sufficient—is continually decreasing by enforced desertion. Three thousand sick are reported at Mostar.

The Roumanians are again engaged in murdering and pillaging the Jews. It is stated that at Dorogoi, in the extreme north of Moldavia, on Sunday, the houses of 150 Jewish families were pillaged by a mob under the leadership of a landowner. Eleven persons were killed and twenty-four wounded by the Moldavians, who also appeased their hatred of the Israelites by robbing them of their worldly possessions to the tune of 90,000 ducats.

The Russian *Golos* announces that a loan of 200,000,000 roubles, at 5 per cent., to be opened through the State Bank, is under consideration. The bonds are to be of fifty roubles each, and will bear the name of Oriental Stock.

A telegram from Bucharest says—"An army of contractors has gathered from all Europe, and there are 320 newspaper correspondents in Roumania."

A telegram from Athens says that Greece is now politically united as she never was before. "The names of Comandouros, Deligeorgis, and Zaimis, serving together as friends, are enough to take one's breath away. Military and financial measures of great importance are expected to follow." Greece is not, however, prepared to act in a military sense, and will wait till the Russians have crossed the Danube. It is stated to be untrue that the Porte has demanded an explanation of the present movement for arming in Greece.

There are grounds for fear among the Turks of a Bulgarian insurrection. The news of the capture of Ardahan was received in the Bulgarian quarter with cries of "Long live the Czar." Eight hundred Circassians are reported to have been sent to Tatar Bazardjik to be distributed among the Bulgarian villages, in order to repress any attempt at insurrection.

## EXTRACTS FROM CORRESPONDENCE.

HOSPITAL ARRANGEMENTS AT SCHUMLA.—I wish I could speak as favourably of the hospital arrangements. They are simply abominable. It is a misnomer to call the rough and unready preparations for mitigating the enormous amount of human suffering which is coming "arrangements." The Turkish doctors—I hope they will excuse me for saying it—are, medically speaking, nowhere. Their existence among a race of fatalists is almost an anachronism, and they are extremely self-sufficient and jealous of rivals. Allah help the poor sick and wounded Turks when their hour of trial comes. There are two English doctors, who are nominally in charge of the ambulances, but they are for ever being intrigued against and baffled in their great exertions to introduce something like system. If your space were unlimited, the most grotesque instances could be given of the maladroitness of these men. At Rustchuk the other day I was asked to witness an operation performed by Dr. Cruickshank, who is in charge there, and greatly respected by the Turks. A poor fellow had received a splinter from a shell in the hand somewhere near Ibraila, and the Turkish doctors tied a

bit of ordinary string just above the wrist, packed him off with others in a jolting, springless wagon to the hospital at Rustchuk—say about the distance from Birmingham to London. When he arrived, another Turkish doctor tied another piece of string just above his elbow, when fortunately Dr. Cruickshank saw the man, and without a minute's delay he, on his own responsibility, which is a heavy one—for the Turks have a special horror of mutilation—took the arm clean out of the socket. It was gangrened all the way up. The poor fellow is now doing well. One instance of the poverty of the surgical provision here must suffice. Its publication will, I trust, incite some people to help us. The quantity of chloroform issued to the ambulance is just enough to provide for four operations to every 9,000 men.—*Letter in Times.*

THE BLOWN-UP TURKISH MONITOR.—We have at length a full and authentic account of the destruction of the Turkish monitor which was recently blown up by torpedoes at Matchin. It is an interesting and instructive narrative. The facts were obtained by a correspondent of the *Daily News* from the two officers who had charge of the Russian torpedo launches, and we may therefore assume that there is very little to be added except details of a purely technical nature to the information we now possess. The Russian expedition against the Turkish ship consisted of four launches, two of which were to make the attack, and the two others to hold themselves in readiness to render assistance to their consorts in case of accident. The night chosen for the adventure was dark and rainy, and the two attacking launches got close up to the monitor before the Turkish sentries were disturbed by the dull throbbing noise of the boats' engines. The Russians were challenged, but they pushed on under a confused fire from the Turks. To the launch commanded by Lieutenant Dubasoff was entrusted the duty of making the first charge. This was gallantly done. Dubasoff ran under the bow of the monitor, and in an instant put a torpedo in position. The torpedo, it may be explained, was attached to a long spar, the end of which was so arranged that the explosive could be detached at any moment. The work seems to have been accomplished without a hitch. A chain fastened to the torpedo was thrown round a cable that was hanging from the bow of the ship; the mine was then dropped from the spar, and the current of the river carried it against the bottom of the monitor. The torpedo was connected with the boat by a fine electric wire, and when all had been arranged the launch steamed back again about 100 yards, when the wire was applied to the battery. There was an instantaneous explosion; but the ship, although observed to be sinking, appeared to be going down very slowly. The second launch was therefore ordered to complete the work. Slipping in under the monitor's stern, Lieutenant Shestakoff repeated the exploit of his comrade. A second and still more terrible explosion followed, and the Turkish ship disappeared. All this was accomplished without any loss to the Russians. The boats were provided with bullet-proof iron awnings running from bow to stern, and not a man was exposed to the enemy's fusillade except the two steersmen. In pointing the lesson of this important incident, the *Daily News* correspondent lays stress upon the fact that "the Turks apparently were not taken by surprise." They had as much warning as a man-of-war could expect under the circumstances, and "it does not appear that even good sailors under such circumstances could have done any better."

ENGLAND GIVEN UP BY THE TURKS.—The Constantinople correspondent of the *Pall Mall Gazette* writes:—"Mr. Layard's position is becoming daily more arduous and painful, as disappointment turns to distrust and antipathy the joyful confidence which greeted him on his arrival as a friend and deliverer. Communities who were, in a moral sense, at our feet a year ago, now ask, 'What does your policy mean? you quarrel with Russia, but your quarrelling is only a snarl; you desert the Turks, and you do nothing for the Christians; you sedulously cultivate everybody's ill-will without doing any good to yourself. Better have kept out of the business altogether than make yourself contemptible in the eyes of every one concerned.' The answer of course is, 'Our time is not come yet. Perhaps it may not come while the war lasts; but if even we have nothing to do with war, we shall have a great deal to do with the peace when the time for making it arrives.' Our Government ought to be aware that throughout Turkey works diligently and constantly a legion of Russian spies or agents, who are by no means confined to the Christian section of the population, but abound also among the Turkish higher classes. Their chief mission is to influence opinion in favour of Russia. Now the condition of mind in which the whole of Turkey (Mahomedans and Christians alike) now is with regard to England is particularly favourable to the labours of this numerous fraternity, and the current of opinion is drifting fast into the Russian groove. Disappointed in the expectations cherished with regard to England, a very black military outlook darkening the early future, a present of privation, of stagnation, of doubt, and peril prepare the popular mind to accept anything that will bring relief. Russia is very hateful, no doubt; but Russia looks less black now the light has faded from England. England has been over-loved; perhaps Russia has been over-hated. Russia pays gloriously in Armenia and Roumania, and is as loving as a bridegroom. At least the knot will not be shown in the honeymoon. What would



Russia ask of us if we were to make peace with her? Batoum and a slice of Armenia?—the surrender of some of our ships? the opening of the Straits? an administrative autonomy in Bulgaria and a treaty of alliance, offensive and defensive? The cession of Batoum and a bit of Armenia would hurt England more than it does us (and serve her right!), because it would give Russia the command of the valley of the Euphrates whenever she wanted it. If we gave up some ships to Russia it would be no great harm; we have more than we want, and it would give us a pretext for getting rid of Hobart. As to the Straits, as far as our interests are concerned, they may as well be open as shut; in time of war we can always shut them, &c. This is the present drift of opinion in Turkey, and it looks bad for England's notion of holding aloof in the war and stepping in at the peace. You will wake up some fine morning and find that Russia and Turkey are at war no longer."

#### THE CRISIS IN FRANCE.

M. Bonnet-Duverdier, the President of the Paris Municipal Council, was charged before the Tribunal of Correctional Police on Friday with having insulted Marshal MacMahon, the President of the French Republic, in a speech delivered at a meeting held at St. Denis. M. Bonnet-Duverdier was sentenced to fifteen months' imprisonment and 2,000 francs fine. It was alleged that in the course of his speech he made use of the following words:—"Should the people not obtain the victory in the elections they would employ the proper remedy against traitors." He is said to have accompanied these words by a gesture as though he were about to shoot. The accused did not, however, appear. The real trial will be on appeal. The Government was in hopes that the Municipal Council would make a noise about the arrest of M. Duverdier, but it was deceived; the Council, like the rest of the Republican party, had resolved to follow the counsels of prudence and moderation given by M. Gambetta.

The *Défense*, a Ministerial organ, says there is only one thing to be done with the present Chamber of Deputies, and that is to dissolve it. But before proceeding to the general elections, the Government must "cleanse universal suffrage" by "destroying the Radical organisation, which hangs like a terror over the hustings, dispersing the Republican committees of the departments, shutting up masonic and other secret societies, and applying the laws vigorously against all calumniators." When MM. de Broglie and De Fourtou have thus "got rid of those who so shamefully deceived universal suffrage in 1876," the country may be asked whether "it will have peace and order with the Marshal, or trouble at home and abroad with the Reds." The *Défense* does "not doubt the answer the country will make"; neither does anybody else.

A lecture upon Diderot, which was to have been given in Paris, has been prohibited by the Minister of the Interior. At the same time a private political meeting with reference to the pledges given by the Deputies of the Seine has been prohibited by the police.

On Friday the Duc de Broglie received a Legitimist deputation, which urged that the Ministry should be remodelled in accordance with the views of the Royalist party. In replying, the duke stated that Marshal MacMahon had no intention of asking for a prolongation of his powers. He would retain office until 1880, but did not propose to hold it beyond that time, and thereby shut out hopes which were justified by the constitution. This statement is said to have been confirmed by the Marshal himself. There is no doubt that the Legitimists will support the Government in the Senate when the demand is made for a dissolution.

There seems to be no probability of the Chambers being prorogued for a second month.

M. Gambetta has been received at Amiens by M. Goblet, the deputy mayor of the city. At a banquet he said that legal resistance was called for by the infatuated dukes who pretended to take possession of the nation. These dictators of a moment ignored the fact that every merchant and every tradesman felt that these pretended Conservatives were the authors of perpetual disorder. They imagined and devised social perils which did not exist, solely to avoid a public discussion which must shortly come. France, in a few days, would let them know their mistake. The 363 deputies were indissolubly united to defend the law, the Constitution, and the will of France. If they dissolved, France would speak out, and his only fear was that she would speak too loudly. He proposed a toast to French opinion, and to the Republican party—that was to say, the patriotic party, with the nation under the aegis of the Republic.

A Paris newspaper states that the French Government appears resolved to prohibit the projected meeting of the three sections of the Left before the reassembling of the Chamber. It is stated that at the recent interview between the senators of the Extreme Right and Marshal MacMahon, the latter entered into no engagement as to what would occur in 1880, when his term of office expires.

M. Victorien Sardou, the dramatic author, has been elected a member of the French Academy by nineteen votes, against seventeen obtained by the other candidate, the Duc d'Audifret-Pasquier.

A letter from Paris says:—

Prince Orloff and General Cialini have been in-

structed by their respective Governments to pay court to M. Thiers. Prince Hohenlohe's visits to him are more frequent than they were. The old statesman's health is good; but he suffers from neuralgia, which, when it attacks him, deprives him of sleep. He said yesterday that he will make a great sacrifice in heading the Opposition, and accepting the call of the country to rescue it from the hands of a clerical faction. There are works that he wants to finish, and which probably he would not be able to terminate if he returned to the Presidency. He has nothing to gain by office. Of wealth he has more than enough. He has a house made to fit him like a comfortable vesture; time to visit exhibitions and picture sales, and to see his friends morning and evening. The Ambassadors of the Continental Powers pay him the compliment of asking his advice on questions of European interest. M. Thiers has also said that when he was last in power it was to evolve order from chaos. Unless, in the event of a war, to which he does not look forward, he would, were he a second time President, lay himself out to acclimatise constitutional government. The political institutions of France are good. What they want is honest men to work them. He spoke very favourably of Gambetta, who in his mind has shown himself politic and patriotic.

A Paris correspondent of the *Pall Mall Gazette* says:—"I see it stated that Marshal MacMahon and his private advisers, as distinct from the Ministry, are anxious to keep the Bonapartists at elbow's length, but I am in a position to assert that the Marshal's Private Secretary, M. d'Harcourt, son of the French Ambassador in London, has frequent—I was going to say daily—interviews with General Fleury, who is now the trusted counsellor of the Prince Imperial."

The *National Zeitung* of Berlin has published an article, entitled "The Senate and the Peace of Europe," which is reproduced by almost all the French newspapers, and is exciting much comment. The article in question is to the effect that the destiny of France and the tranquillity of Europe generally depend on the approaching vote of the Senate:—

The Senate (it continues) ought properly speaking, to be the bulwark of the Constitution, whereas now people are attempting to turn it into a battering-ram for the annihilation of existing institutions. It is now being attempted by the vote of this body to veil in the past acts which have excited the indignation of Europe, and to prepare in the future acts which would plunge France into the situation of Spain and Mexico, and which would threaten the peace of Europe.

The article goes on to say that it is becoming day by day more clear that "Ultramontanism in its most obvious and bellicose aspect has determined to get the government into its hands." Then, referring to the recent speeches of the Pope and the Nuncios at Munich and Brussels, it points out that the tendency of affairs is clear, and that the establishment of an Ultramontane Government could not fail to alter the situation of France as regards her relations with the other Powers. The writer ends by expressing his inability to believe that the Senate can be blind to the enormous interests which depend upon its decision, but he says the men who have now pushed France so far into the path of adventure have assumed so great a responsibility that one can no longer attach any weight to their assurances that they will stop at such and such a point. The *XIXe Siècle* characterises the article as being extremely grave, especially as the *National Zeitung* is the organ of Prince Bismarck.

#### FOREIGN MISCELLANY.

It was announced some days ago that the Pope had conferred the Grand Cross of the Order of Pius IX. on the President of the French Republic. The report was quite unfounded.

Advices from the Transvaal state that the news continues to be satisfactory. The Dutch farmers and native-born inhabitants have petitioned the Queen expressing their loyalty, and asking Her Majesty to appoint Sir Theophilus Shepstone administrator.

The Government of Washington have resolved to prosecute the perpetrators of the Mountain Meadow massacre until all those who participated in it have been punished. If the Mormons resist, which is hardly expected, Federal troops will be sent to enforce the decisions of the legal tribunals.

In consequence of the Pope, in a recent speech, having likened the German Emperor to Attila, King of the Huns, the Munich municipal authorities have prohibited a procession in honour of Pius IX. A similar procession in the neighbourhood of Munich has been prohibited by the Bavarian Government.

Seven steamers sailed from New York on Saturday with full cargoes of breadstuffs and provisions for England. The quantity being exported is so great that the regular steamers are insufficient for the purpose, and an extra steamer, the *Dirigo*, is being sent by the White Star Line. The freight, of course, on all the upper lakes to the English Channel were advancing rapidly in consequence of the great demand for grain-carrying vessels.

PRINCE BISMARCK.—A letter from Kissingen says that Prince Bismarck appears to be in the enjoyment of perfect health, and that he leads a most patriarchal life. Not so patriarchal, however, but that he receives every day two councillors from the Foreign Office at Berlin, who arrive with formidable portfolios. What the Prince is about the writer cannot say; but it appears that in talking over commercial questions with some manufacturers the Chancellor, à la Burleigh, made a most significant movement of the head. Unfortunately this movement is diversely interpreted. It was evoked in

consequence of the hope being expressed that the war between Turkey and Russia would soon be brought to a close.

THE POPE AND THE PILGRIMS.—Of pilgrims and deputations there seems to be no end at the Vatican, and it is little short of marvellous that the Pope should continue in "excellent health," and able to receive the crowds which wait upon him daily to offer their congratulations on his jubilee. On Thursday pilgrims were assembled in the Hall of Consistory from Ireland, Malta, Dalmatia, the Tyrol, and there were also numerous deputations from Catholic communities in other portions of the world. The Irish pilgrims were led by Cardinal Cullen and several of his suffragans. The offerings from Ireland and Irishmen amounted to £14,000, and a number of valuable gifts. The pilgrims from Poland presented the Pope with 150,000 francs, and a number of gifts of considerable value and great beauty. An address was read by Cardinal Lodochowski, to which His Holiness, in reply, said that among the many pilgrimages he had received in these days this was one of the most acceptable to him on account of the grave difficulties they had surmounted to accomplish their desire, difficulties caused by the persecution they had been subjected to for so many years. His Holiness stigmatised in forcible terms the policy Russia had employed against unhappy Poland, which he characterised as ferocious and without provocation.

BELGIAN INDEPENDENCE AND THE PAPACY.—The Brussels correspondent of the *Pall Mall Gazette* writes:—"At the fêtes given by the town of Liège in celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of the establishment of the Conservatory of Music there, the King said, in reply to an address from M. Frère-Orban, in the name of the representatives of the arrondissements of Liège in the Chamber, that Belgium is at this moment in a very difficult situation. The treaties which guaranteed the equilibrium of Europe have been successively torn up. Belgium must in these grave circumstances affirm more energetically than ever her independence and nationality. Great sacrifices have already been made in the interest of the national defence, but the Government will be obliged soon to demand new credits from the Legislature to assure the defence of the country. The King said finally, in special reference to M. Frère-Orban, that in such questions the chief of the Opposition forms in some sort part of the Government. In next day's sitting of the Chamber M. Frère-Orban addressed to the Government an interpellation relative to the speech of the Papal Nuncio to the Belgian ex-Papal Zouaves. The Minister of Foreign Affairs read in reply a note declaring that the Nuncio had not authorised anybody to reproduce his words, which had not the meaning or bearing attributed to them, and that he neither provoked nor had the intention to provoke the taking up of arms. The Nuncio gave therefore an absolute denial to the Ultramontane journals whose reporters had taken down his speech. The Chamber passes, in consequence of the explanations and declarations of the Government, to the order of the day, was the motion adopted, after a long discussion, by 108 votes against 6 abstentions. The Ultramontane demonstrations were therefore condemned both by the Chamber and the Government. A great popular demonstration to protest against the Ultramontane manifestations took place before the Italian Legation at Brussels, amid the cries of 'Vive l'Italie!'"

#### Epitome of News.

The Queen, accompanied by Princess Beatrice, and attended by the lords and ladies of the Court, is expected to leave Balmoral in the course of next week and return to Windsor Castle.

The Prince and Princess of Wales left Marlborough House on Monday for East Hampstead-park, near Bracknell, where they will entertain a distinguished party for the Ascot races.

The Prince of Wales held a Levée on behalf of Her Majesty on Wednesday afternoon at St. James's Palace. In the diplomatic circle, General Grant and his son were presented by the United States Minister, and Syud Yakob Khan Turab, the Kashgar envoy, by Lord Salisbury. The number of presentations was about 400. The same morning the Prince of Wales with the Princess arrived at Marlborough House from Paris.

A Cabinet Council was held on Saturday, at which all the Ministers were present.

Lord Odo Russell, the British Ambassador at Berlin, has arrived at Balmoral on a visit to Her Majesty the Queen.

Midhat Pasha was present in the House of Commons for some time during the debate on the Women's Disabilities Bill on Wednesday.

Lord Salisbury, Lord Derby, Midhat Pasha, and Dr. Schliemann were guests of the Merchant Taylors' Company on Monday night. Referring to the Eastern Question, Lord Salisbury remarked, with regard to the anxiety felt on the subject of India, that there were no grounds for apprehension, an opinion with which Lord Derby coincided.

On taking his seat on the bench at the Mansion House Police-court on Saturday, the Lord Mayor was informed that there were no charges or summonses to be heard, and, in accordance with custom, was presented with a pair of white gloves.

A frightful accident occurred at Bath on Wednesday. An excursion-train from the Weymouth district had brought 900 visitors to the Bath and



West of England Agricultural Show, many of whom took the road from the station across a narrow suspension bridge over the Avon. The toll-house was at the further end, and when some 200 people were on the bridge, it is said that the refusal of one person to pay the halfpenny toll caused a delay and a block. The weight of the people broke the bridge, and all were precipitated into the river, a distance of forty feet, and where the river is ten feet deep. By the latest accounts eight were killed on the spot, about fifty were carried to the hospital, and many others to private houses, some being very seriously injured. There are still thirty-four sufferers in the hospital. They are going on favourably, with the exception of a Mr. Millborne, whose leg was amputated, and whose life is now despaired of. On Saturday a number of men were engaged with the aid of cranes in clearing the river of the wreck of the bridge, which Colonel Yolland is anxious minutely to inspect.

Professor Goldwin Smith and Mr. J. H. Stoddart, editor of the *Glasgow Herald*, have been elected members of the Reform Club, under the rule which enables the political committee to select once a year from the candidates' book two gentlemen who have rendered services to the Liberal cause.

A meeting of the Home-Rule members of the House of Commons was convened for last Thursday to consider the alleged obstructive policy of Messrs. Parnell and Biggar; but an adjournment took place until next Saturday without any business being transacted, in consequence of the desire of hon. members to be present at the debate on the Prisons Bill.

Mr. Mitchell Henry, M.P., has addressed a letter to the *Freeman* complaining of non-attendance of the Irish members on Tuesday night, when "The Financial Grievances of Ireland" were under consideration. A special whip had been issued, and the duty of being present was urged on the party "to prevent the Irish cause from being made ridiculous by proclaiming to the English people that apparently we do not believe in our own case." He remarks that attention has been called in the English papers that more Scotch members voted against the resolution than Irish members for it, and that the House would have been counted out but for the Treasury Bench.

In consequence of the continued illness of Lord Justice Amphlett, Sir James Fitzjames Stephen, Q.C., has been appointed royal commissioner to go as one of the judges of assize on the South-Eastern Circuit.

General Grant visited the agricultural show at Bath on Friday, and received an address from the mayor and corporation. The general has accepted an invitation from a number of members of the Reform Club to attend a banquet which they propose to give in his honour at the club. Next Monday, June 18, is the day fixed, and Lord Granville will preside.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer on Wednesday received a deputation of gentlemen interested in the passing of the Colonial Marriages Bill, and in reply to their representations was afraid that he could not hold out any encouraging expectation of his being able to find a day for the discussion of the measure, particularly as it was one which the Government were unable to accept.

The foundation-stone of a new Jewish synagogue was laid in St. Petersburg-place, Bayswater, on Thursday, by Mr. Leopold Rothschild. The building is to cost 38,000*l.*, of which 12,000*l.* has been already raised, and towards this further contributions are promised.

The death is announced, from consumption, of Mr. S. O. Beeton, the well-known publisher, at the age of forty-six.

During two days last week the coroner (Mr. Aspinall) has held fifteen inquests at Liverpool, on the bodies of persons who have died either violently or suddenly, and it transpired that in thirteen instances drink was directly connected with death.

It is officially announced that the negotiations for the amalgamation of the Great Northern and Great Eastern Railway Companies are at an end. The Great Eastern board required that, as a six per cent. dividend had been assumed throughout by the Great Northern as the basis of their proposal of fifty per cent. Great Northern Stock for 100*l.* Great Eastern Stock, a dividend at that rate on their proportion of ordinary stock should be assured to the Great Eastern shareholders for ten years from 1883. This proposal, the Great Northern directors state, they cannot advise their shareholders to entertain, "having from the outset of the negotiations uniformly declined to treat upon the basis of a guarantee."

The result of a household canvass of the borough of Cambridge on the question of closing public-houses on Sunday has just been made known. Of 6,876 voting papers delivered, 1,026 were returned unanswered, and 799 were not returned at all; 2,135 were in favour of closing entirely on Sundays; 1,595 were in favour of no Sunday drinking on the premises, and of limiting the sale to an hour at noon and an hour in the evening; and 1,321 declared in favour of things remaining as they are.

A Radical Club and Association has been formed in Southwark, the objects of which will be to afford the means of social intercourse, and generally to promote the political and intellectual improvement of its members; and to organise the Radical party with a view to the election of men to Parliament for their intelligence, ability, and political principles, irrespective of their social position.

Mr. Charles Veasey, of Bridge House, Huntingdon, has been invited to come forward as a Liberal

candidate for the representation of Huntingdonshire. Mr. Veasey was chairman of Lord Douglas Gordon's committee at the last election.

The Board of Trade returns for the month of May present some features which favour the long-cherished hopes of a revival of foreign trade. In both exports and imports an increase is shown. The quantities of imports have been maintained in a remarkable manner throughout this prolonged period of depression. The declared value of articles imported last month is 34,647,682*l.*, which is nearly eighteen per cent. more than in May of last year, and even more than in May, 1875. The value of British exported articles in the same month was 17,461,139*l.*, being nearly 2½ per cent. more than in the corresponding month of last year, though lower than it was in May, 1875. With the single exception of cotton the importation of all the raw materials of manufacture has increased, a sign that production takes place on a scale that is continually being enlarged.

On Friday a largely attended meeting of representative workmen connected with various trades, temperance, and other organisations was held at Bristol for the purpose of forming an independent political organisation, under the title of "The Bristol and District Working Men's Reform Association," upon a representative basis.

It is stated that on the same day that the recent announcement appeared of the discontinuance of *Saunders' News Letter* it passed into the hands of Mr. W. J. Burnside, and that it has been ever since published as usual.

A suggestion has, it is said, been made to the Dean and Chapter of St. Paul's Cathedral to lay out St. Paul's churchyard, for the benefit of the public, with flowers and trees, as other City churchyards have been laid out.

Mr. John O'Keefe, M.P. for Dungarvan, died on Monday, in Dublin, in his fiftieth year. He was a magistrate of the county of Waterford, of which county he was high sheriff in 1863. He has represented Dungarvan as a Home Ruler since February, 1874.

Mdls. Titens continues to improve, and during the last day or two has been able to exchange her bed for the sofa.

A largely-attended public meeting was held at Castlereagh in the county of Roscommon on Monday, the High Sheriff presiding, for the purpose of expressing abhorrence at the murder of Mr. Young, J.P., within a short distance of his residence on the 2nd inst. The leading magistrates of the county attended. Resolutions were unanimously adopted expressing horror at the cowardly crime, indignation at the stain cast on the whole county, and a determination to do everything possible to discover the perpetrators. A resolution of sympathy with Mrs. Young and the family was also passed. A subscription list was opened, and over £900 was at once subscribed as a reward fund. It was stated that Mr. Young was a most exemplary landlord.

### Miscellaneous.

**SCHOOLS FOR TRUANT CHILDREN.**—On Thursday the Sheffield School Board discussed a report of a committee appointed to consider the best means of dealing with truant children with a view to bring them under the operation of the Elementary Education Act. It was resolved to apply to the Home Secretary for permission to establish a truant school for Sheffield, under the provisions of the Industrial Schools Act, 1866, and the Elementary Education Act, 1876.

**THE LONDON SCHOOL BOARD** reassembled on Wednesday after the Whitsuntide holidays. Sir Charles Reed stated that a letter had been received by Mr. F. Peek, from the secretary to the Crystal Palace Company, intimating the terms on which the directors would be disposed to act with the board in the getting up of a *fete*, the proceeds to be applied to scholarships. The matter was referred to the school management committee. The adjourned debate on Mr. Peek's motion for the appointment of a committee to examine the fees charged in board schools was resumed, and resulted in the subject being referred to the school management committee. A statement respecting the operation of the penny banks established in connection with board schools in the Tower Hamlets was ordered to be forwarded to every member of the board and to the head teacher of each department of schools under the board. The question of lending libraries was also discussed, and the school committee were instructed to establish a lending library in every permanent board school as far as possible, at a cost to the board of not more than £10.

**MR. GOLDWIN SMITH AT BRIGHTON.**—Under the auspices of the Brighton Liberal Association, Professor Goldwin Smith on Friday addressed a large audience at the Town Hall, Brighton, on "The Political Situation." After referring at length to the advance of Liberal principles on the Continent, as shown during the last fifty years, Mr. Smith reviewed the causes which contributed to the Liberal defeat at the last election, observing that it was defeat, not of Liberal policy, but of the Liberal party, for whatever advances had been made by the Liberals, the Tories, even with their overwhelming majority, did not venture to reverse them. With respect to the war in the East, he said it was acknowledged on every hand that the state of the Christians in Turkey called for reform, but instead of the English Government coming forward to offer their assistance in improving that condition, it compelled the op-

pressed, whether they desired it or not, to throw themselves into the arms of Russia. A vote of thanks having been passed to Mr. Smith, the meeting terminated with three cheers for Mr. Gladstone, to whose suggestion at Birmingham for the Liberal party to secure further organisation allusion was made by several speakers.

**WYCLIFFE COMMEMORATION.**—On Monday evening, the 500th anniversary of the issue of three bulls from Rome against John Wycliffe, was celebrated by a numerous public meeting in Exeter Hall, convened under the auspices of the British and Foreign Christian League and Systematic Benevolence Society. The Bishop of Meath (Lord Plunket), who presided, said Wycliffe was a reformer before the Reformers, a translator of the Bible before those to whom that title was usually given, a statesman of great wisdom, varied learning, dauntless courage, and true piety. The Rev. Dr. R. G. Cather, the secretary, in the course of a statement respecting the object of the meeting, said he had heard Mr. John Bright, M.P., speak of Wycliffe as "the greatest man in English history." The Rev. Canon Farrar, in moving the first resolution, paying homage to the merits of Wycliffe as a scholar, patriot, divine, statesman, and philanthropist, said they owed Wycliffe a debt of gratitude on three grounds—first, his repudiation of the doctrine of transubstantiation at a time when it was held in its grossest and most material form; secondly, his rejection of sacerdotalism; and thirdly, his discouragement of auricular confession. He also connected the "Caxton Celebration" with that commemoration. The Rev. Dr. Angus seconded the resolution, and it was adopted. On the motion of the Rev. Arthur Mursell, a resolution was afterwards passed declaring it to be desirable that public meetings, preceded by preparatory sermons on the same theme, should be held in the great centres of population throughout the kingdom.

**PROGRESS OF THE TONIC SOLFA SYSTEM.**—Speaking at a meeting on behalf of the Building Fund of the Tonic Solfa College at the Royal Academy of Music on Friday evening, Dr. Stainer, organist of St. Paul's, said that his attention was first called to the system some years ago by its success in training choir-boys. Some of his brother musicians thought that to advocate this system was to subvert all that was venerable in music, but in his opinion the advocate of the Tonic Solfa system subverted nothing, but only encouraged the spread of musical knowledge. The system helped singers to sing in tune, and gave them certainty in taking intervals, while it enabled them to read at sight with great confidence. Mr. Brinley Richards said he was formerly one of the Philistines who ridiculed the system, but he had been led to change his opinion by witnessing its results among the choir in Wales. The movement had his cordial support, from a social as well as a musical point of view; for every philanthropist must desire to provide healthful recreation for the people such as music supplied. Mr. Sedley Taylor said that a year or two since, in a scientific work, he nailed his colours to the mast of the moveable doh, and advocated the Tonic Solfa notation. As a scientist, he could assure them that the fact of the moveable doh lying at the basis of the laws of music was as certain as any fact in the exact sciences, and this no man of science would venture to deny. The Rev. John Rogers, vice-chairman of the London School Board, who presided, said that he attributed the recent improvement of school-singing entirely to the Tonic Solfa system. In his own parish school they had failed with the ordinary notation, but they had not long adopted the new system before the school was full of singing. The Rev. E. P. Cachemaille, M.A., of Muswell-hill, described the advantages of the system in ordinary parochial work, and Mr. A. J. Ellis, F.R.S., advocated it from a theoretical and scientific point of view. Mr. Curwen, president of the college, made a statement, from which it appeared that the teaching was self-supporting, and that money was only required for the building. About 1,200*l.* had been obtained, and the total cost of the building would be 9,000*l.* Mr. Godfrey Lushington said that the movement originated by Mr. Curwen had quite outgrown his power of support, and had become national. The appeal for this college, which was to train music-teachers for popular work, was therefore reasonable and just.

**DR. DE JONGH'S LIGHT-BROWN COD LIVER OIL.**—ITS UNEQUALLED EFFICACY IN THE WASTING DISEASES OF CHILDREN.—Dr. G. Saunders, C.B., late Deputy-Inspector-General Army Hospitals, Superintendent London Medical Mission, writes:—"I have used Dr. de Jongh's Cod Liver Oil extensively among the sick poor of St. Giles's, and consider it a valuable remedy, especially in the Wasting Diseases of Children. Dr. Staveland King, Physician to the Metropolitan Free Hospital, writes:—"I can very conscientiously testify to the superior qualities of Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil. I have employed it with great advantage in cases of mesenteric and pulmonary tubercle, and in the atrophic diseases of children." Dr. R. C. Croft, author of "Handbook for the Nursery," writes:—"I have tried Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil, and find that it contains all the properties which render the Oil so efficacious. I find, moreover, that many patients prefer it to the Pale Oil, and are able to retain it more comfortably. It is almost a specific in many of the diseases peculiar to infancy and childhood, and I have seen marked benefit produced by its use." Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil is sold only in capsuled imperial half-pints, 2*s.* 6*d.*; pints, 4*s.* 9*d.*; quarts, 9*s.*; with his stamp and signature and the signature of his sole consignees on the capsule and the label under wrapper, by all chemists. Sole consignees, Ansar, Harford, and Co., 77, Strand, London.—[ADVT.]



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## NEW COLLEGE, LONDON.

The TWENTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING will be held at the College, Finchley New-road, on FRIDAY EVENING, June 22nd. The Chair will be taken at Six o'clock. The Rev. W. PULSFORD, D.D., of Glasgow, has kindly promised to deliver an address to the students. The Revs. Dr. Drummond, S. Hebditch, W. M. Statham, and other Ministers and gentlemen, are also expected to take part in the proceedings. Subscribers and friends of the College are respectfully invited to attend.  
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# The Nonconformist.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 13, 1877.

## SUMMARY.

THE Parliamentary news of the week, if somewhat meagre, is not without interest. The war has, comparatively speaking, dropped out of sight, with the exception of two or three informal discussions on the Government policy with regard to the Suez Canal. The Woman's Suffrage Bill was talked out by Mr. Courtney, one of its leading supporters, who resented the efforts of the well-organised Tory majority to prevent him by clamour from addressing the House. Some further progress has been made with the Prisons Bill; and it appears more than probable that it and the Universities Bill are the only two important measures which will pass into law during the present session. Last night, in the debate on Sir J. Eardley Wilmot's motion for the revision of the laws of homicide, Mr. Bright made an impressive speech in favour of the abolition of capital punishment. He declared that our criminal law had always been more severe and cruel than that of any other Christian State. He was supported by Sir William Harcourt. The first division was taken on Mr. Pease's amendment for the abolition of the death penalty, fifty members voting with the hon. gentleman. Sir Eardley Wilmot obtained eleven additional votes. This debate marks a new advance of public opinion on the question.

The Czar has arrived at the headquarters of the Grand Duke Nicholas; and, although the waters of the Danube have not fallen to any great extent, the crossing of the river may now take place at any moment. The Russians are able to select several points along a considerable line, notably between Ibrail and Reni, or between Kalarasch and Oltenitza, or at some convenient place above Rustchuk. It is not unlikely that they may cross in two or three bodies, and that, after having entered Bulgaria, one of their earliest proceedings will be the siege of Rustchuk, which is a fortress of great strength. Out of deference to Austrian susceptibilities, neither Serbia nor Roumania is to be allowed to take part in the campaign—at all events for the present. In Asia the latest intelligence is slightly more favourable for the Turks, whose main army is said to be concentrated in an advantageous and entrenched position at Sewin, and it appears certain that a decisive battle will be fought almost immediately before Erzeroum. There has been much fighting in Montenegro, with chequered results. In battles at Krastz and Martinitje the Turks were defeated with heavy loss, no fewer than 4,000 men being laid *hors de combat* at the former place, while the Turks acknowledge that at the other town they left between 600 and 700 dead bodies on the battle-field. Since then, however, the Montenegrins have sustained various reverses. The political situation has undergone little change. Prince Milan is about to pay a visit to the Czar, but there is reason to believe that the result of their interview will be to confirm the neutrality of Serbia.

The friends of the Turk are never weary of sounding the praises of the Ottoman soldiers—of doing justice to their courage and endurance. It is therefore only fair that the Russians in the field should have the credit which is due to them for the good qualities they exhibit. It is the noble purpose of the Czar to accomplish the liberation of Bulgaria. Do his soldiers by their personal conduct merit the designation of an army of deliverance? Any one who takes the trouble to read a carefully-written letter from the special correspondent of the *Scotsman* at Bucharest, which appeared a few days ago, will, we venture to think, answer this question in the affirmative. We there find a picture of good order and sobriety which it is pleasant to contemplate. "At every camp I have visited," says the writer, "there have been more than one sutler's store and drinking-place; yet, though going round both at night and in the day, I have never seen a man drunk." The same writer visited a camp of 6,000 Bulgarians, "a splendid set of fellows," who "in physique beat the Rouman and Wallach." It is gratifying to learn that there are Bulgarians able to draw the sword for the freedom of their country.

The present situation in France has not ceased to excite anxiety. It involves a triumph of the Ultramontane party, which is full of danger to the liberties of France and to the peace of Europe. The German Government especially is on the alert, and if rumours from Berlin may be credited, are not unwilling to anticipate a hostile movement by striking the first blow.

We, however, doubt whether Prince Bismarck would venture upon so aggressive a policy. Deeply as the reaction in France is to be deplored, and ardently as we desire the vindication of the national authority against Legitimist and Bonapartist conspirators, we are yet emphatically of opinion that Germany has no right whatever to interfere with the domestic concerns of the French nation. The *National Zeitung* hints that if the Senate consents to a dissolution of the Chambers, the German Government will regard this as arming the administration with "the sword of French military power." The Chambers will be dissolved, but it does not follow that Marshal MacMahon and the Duc de Broglie will be invested with a national authority to declare war against Germany in the interests of France and the Pope. On the contrary, M. Gambetta, in a recent speech at Abbeville, expresses his conviction that if an appeal be made to the country she will be true to herself—"his only fear being that she would speak too loudly." He also eloquently condemned "the appearance of personal power in the bosom of the Republican constitution." It is satisfactory to find that no other Republican of position has imitated the imprudence of M. Duverdier, the President of the Paris Municipal Council. In the meantime, the shifty and foolish President has been compelled to disavow, in the most explicit terms, any intention to promote the dynastic interests either of Legitimists or of Bonapartists; but of course both of these factions have their own game to play.

The Papal Jubilee has evidently suggested a Wycliffe commemoration. The 500th anniversary of the Pope's condemnation of the great Reformer has been celebrated by the delivery of a number of preparatory sermons at Westminster Abbey, and at various Episcopal and Nonconformist churches in the metropolis; and also by a great meeting at Exeter Hall, under the presidency of Lord Plunket, Bishop of Meath. The bishop's speech contained ample evidence of the salutary influence of disestablishment in Ireland in imparting breadth and catholicity to the episcopal mind. An opinion of Mr. Bright's was quoted to the effect that John Wycliffe was the greatest man England had ever produced; and assuredly it is so far true that not even Luther himself rendered greater service to the cause of religious freedom, or exhibited a sublimer courage in his conflict with ecclesiastical tyranny. The day of the meeting was the seventh anniversary of the destruction of the Temporal Power. The mention of this fact by Mr. Arthur Mursell effectually kindled the enthusiasm of the assembly.

The fact that three highway robberies have taken place on Blackheath since May 28 last naturally suggests reflections as to the insecurity which exists in the midst of what all cockneys are too much disposed to regard as a condition of universal security. Before Blackheath had been belted round with dwellings, or had become one of the lungs of the metropolis, it was a notorious resort of highwaymen, but we doubt whether even in the palmy days of Claude Duval and Dick Turpin, carriage folk were attacked more frequently than three times in a single fortnight. Lord Truro, as a resident in this pleasant suburb, has naturally endeavoured to elicit from the Government an undertaking that efficient measures shall be taken to prevent the recurrence of these outrages. Lord Beauchamp, in reply, has given all necessary assurances, Lord Redesdale, however, volunteering the very dangerous piece of advice that Lord Truro should cross the heath armed with a revolver. No doubt the police will prove equal to the emergency, and that through their activity "order" will be quickly restored at Blackheath, just as an increase of vigilance on the part of the military at Aldershot put an end to the freaks of the grotesque ruffian, who, not long ago, amused himself in the dead of the night by springing upon solitary sentries, and felling them to the ground. There is something so intensely melodramatic in the proceedings of the Blackheath highwaymen, and they appear to be so easily cowed by a little energy on the part of coachmen in the use of the whip, that we should not be surprised if it turned out that they were no mere vulgar footpads, but a brace of youths whose heads had been turned by reading "Lives of Highwaymen," or some other romantic annals of "the road." Indeed, Lord Beauchamp described the two worthies as "young, well dressed, and apparently of good education."

## BRITISH INTERESTS AND THE WAR.

THUS far all the efforts which have been made by the venomous apologists for Turkish misrule to excite the war feeling among the British people have signally failed. Finding

that common-sense Englishmen steadily refused to regard the Turk as an object worthy of their sympathy, they have done, and are still doing, their best to pervert the moral sense of the country by invidious appeals to British interests. Their definition of those interests has varied according to the particular place on the map which happened at the moment to be threatened by Russia, or to the nature of the passing but malignant rumour which they thought best calculated to serve their nefarious purpose. The speech which Lord Salisbury delivered in the House of Lords on Monday night in reply to Lord de Mauley is the most effective blow which the Turcophile faction has yet received. Lord Beaconsfield's great panacea for Russian intrigue in Central Asia was the assumption by the Queen of the Imperial title. The late Mr. David Urquhart used to propose the more drastic remedy involved in the restoration of the ancient functions of the Privy Council and of the block on Tower-hill. But Lord de Mauley thinks that "the commercial and territorial interests of British India" would be best secured by appointing a Consul "to some town in Central Asia." Surely a motion of this nature—supported, too, by a speech equally vague and inconsequential in its terms—is hardly likely to stimulate a sentiment of profound admiration for a certain class of hereditary legislators. The First Napoleon proposed to Russia the invasion of India; and according to Lord de Mauley's historical information on the subject, one of the objects of the Emperor's ill-starred Moscow campaign was to "induce" the then Czar to unite with him in the conquest of our Indian Empire. It is true that Alexander I. rejected the proposals of the French Mephistopheles, but the noble lord's argument is unaffected by so insignificant a fact. In his view we are helpless to defend ourselves. "Before we could move an army, hordes of Cossacks would swarm like locusts over their frontier to feed and fatten upon the resources of India." Lord de Mauley therefore proposes to plant a consul among those "wild tribes" whose independent existence he considers the safeguard of India.

Lord Salisbury, in reply, simply laughed to scorn the panic-mongers who, whether from feelings of credulity or from mere love of mischief we will not pretend to say, are endeavouring to set up the bogey of British interests in Central Asia as a reason either for appointing consuls where they are not wanted, or for dragging this country into a direct position of hostility to Russia. The noble lord had referred to the aggressive designs of Peter the Great in Asia, exactly as Mr. Urquhart was accustomed to appeal to the apocryphal Will of the same potentate; but Lord Salisbury dismissed this historical allusion as irrelevant to the question at issue, and well he might, seeing that Peter the Great died in 1725, while our Indian empire was not established till 1757. His lordship satirically remarked that a good deal of the misapprehension which exists arises from the popular use of maps on a small scale. "If," he said, "the noble lord would use a larger map—say one on the scale of the Ordnance map of England—he would find that the distance between Russia and British India is not to be measured by the finger and thumb, but by a rule. There are between them deserts and mountainous chains extending thousands of miles, and there are serious obstacles to any advance by Russia, however well planned such an advance might be." Finally, he justly remarked that the proper place in which to watch British interests was in India itself, and not in Central Asia. At a later hour this discussion appears to have suggested to Lord Salisbury a topic for his speech at the Merchant Taylors' banquet. He took for his illustration those perturbations with regard to the safety of our colonies which appear to be prevalent in the neighbourhood of the United Service Institution and of the military clubs. In some indirect way, for example, it was said that the security of South Africa was likely to be threatened by the successes of Russia in Asia Minor. If the Russians occupied Armenia, Syria was threatened; and he who commanded Syria was master of Egypt, which was the key of Africa. He ridiculed these puerile alarms, protesting against the folly of those who were in favour of going to war against "a nightmare." Lord Derby followed on the same side, emphatically declaring that the greatest of all British interests is peace.

We wish that the Government could be induced to hold a similar tone in their despatches as well as their speeches. Lord Derby employed the language of calmness and moderation at the Merchant Taylors' banquet. Why does he not display equal good sense in his despatches on the subject of the Suez Canal? No doubt vital British interests are involved in keeping open our communications



through the Canal; but we believe that unnecessary anxiety has been provoked by the bellicose—not to say insulting—manner in which our rights have been asserted. The Government have put on an air of mystery which appears to suggest that, if they thought proper to give reasons for what they have done, their justification would be complete; but we doubt whether our interests in the Canal have ever been exposed to the least real jeopardy. Count Schouvaloff is said to be the bearer of communications which perhaps have at last opened Lord Derby's eyes to the fact that neither as respects Egypt, Constantinople, the Dardanelles, nor even the Persian Gulf, have we much to fear from Russian ambition, her paramount object being to secure justice for the Christian subjects of the Porte.

#### THE FEDERATION OF LIBERAL ASSOCIATIONS.

MR. CHAMBERLAIN, M.P., and his friends at Birmingham, must be not a little flattered with the attention, not to say the nervous apprehension, excited by the new Liberal organisation of which Birmingham is to be the centre. Its opponents seem bent on advertising it gratis. Sir George Bowyer would fain evoke against the combination some obsolete statute which has lain dormant for three-quarters of a century, and thirsts to follow the example of M. de Fourtou and his fellow-reactionists, by resuscitating the old rusty weapons of repression of George III.'s time, which would stifle the expression of public opinion in its most effective form; but both the Attorney-General and Mr. Chamberlain have given him a suitable reply. The *Saturday Review* bitterly bewails a course of political action in the Midland capital which does not allow adequate representation to minorities, and secures the ascendancy of Liberalism in that great town and its neighbourhood. Even the *Times* is dubious as to the expediency of so thorough-going an organisation. Mr. Gladstone's recent visit to Birmingham in connection with this movement is also viewed with serious concern by the chief High-Church organ. The *Guardian* of Wednesday last expatiates on the subject in the following remarkable fashion:—

Now this was a great occasion, with a carefully-arranged programme. And on this occasion we have before us an announcement of what ought to be the aims of the Liberal party—an inauguration, under the presidency of a man whose name is "Thorough," of one of those great self-governing organisations which, if successful, overshadow and control the constituted authorities of the country—and lastly we have the great statesman of the day adopting that great organisation, and placing on its banner a word which severs it from the weak-kneed or aristocratical members of what has hitherto been called the Liberal party.

The use of such language is calculated to rouse serious thoughts among those who look on Mr. Gladstone as the great political personage of the day—and is, of course, intended to do so.

It is best to speak out apprehensions plainly—because if so spoken they may possibly be dispelled. The immediate apprehension which crosses the mind on reading the Birmingham proceedings is of a dissolution which, under cover of securing justice to the Christians of Turkey, may in fact revolutionise our own country.

The meaning of this declaration we take to be that, if Mr. Gladstone is disposed to follow in the wake, or to put himself at the head, of the Birmingham Radicals, his Church admirer must, perforce, part company with him. The obvious conclusion of our contemporary—though unsupported by aught that took place at Bingley Hall—is, that Mr. Gladstone is in danger of drifting into a disestablishment policy. But the *Guardian* has too soon forgotten that eminent dignitaries of the Established Church have lately spoken of the contingency not only as possible, but as being, under certain circumstances, by no means alarming. Our contemporary does not, however, share that view. To separate Church and State is, according to the old formula, "to revolutionise" the country, and it is becoming a question of growing practical importance, now that the most effective Liberal organisation of the day is in practical alliance with the Liberation Society. Due notice is therefore given to Mr. Gladstone that if he shows any further disposition to advance in that direction his High-Church friends will be constrained to throw him overboard.

Probably the Birmingham Radicals will be somewhat surprised at this flattering estimate of their influence. It is a tribute to their earnestness and power of organisation. The *Guardian* foresees that under the new régime the future of the Liberal party will not be in the hands of aristocratic Whigs and "weak-kneed Liberals," but that it will be shaped by men who can evoke popular enthusiasm and turn it into the most serviceable channel. This, indeed, is, as we understand,

the object of the movement. It is of the last importance, if the party is again to become an instrument for carrying into effect true Liberal principles, that both its policy and its machinery should spring from the great body of its adherents. We have had enough of the management of little cliques, and of mushroom adventurers who spring up at a general election, force themselves upon unprepared constituencies, and ignore, if they do not betray, their party in the House of Commons. All this will be prevented if the Birmingham scheme should be generally carried out. It is simply based on the broad principle of representation, and is the best antidote to individual dictation, and that disunion which is the weakness of the Liberal party. Mr. Chamberlain and his friends offer the party of progress a basis of organisation which is essentially Democratic, and which will enable it to utilise its entire strength; and they refuse, so far as they are concerned, to give any countenance to the clique system, which furthers personal and selfish ends, but in no way promotes the general Liberal cause. We think they are wise in adhering to the broad principle of popular representation they have laid down, and have no doubt that if their plan be generally adopted it will ensure a degree of Liberal cohesion such as has not been known for many years, and bring about the return of a renovated House of Commons.

The *Guardian* speaks of the Federation of Liberal Associations as "one of those great self-governing organisations which, if successful, overshadow and control the constituted authorities of the country." No doubt. But is not the aim, as Mr. Chamberlain has said, of the federated Conservative associations also? There is, in truth, need of all the advantages that can be secured for the Liberal cause by energy, union, and organisation. Undoubtedly, all the vested interests of the country, if not "the constituted authorities," are banded against them, beginning with that of the liquor traffic, and ending with that of the Established Church. Every small town and village at least contains a permanent electioneering agency on behalf of the Tories in the shape of the parish parson and his subordinates. Mainly by their effective help, Lord Beaconsfield at the last election was able to secure nine-tenths of the county constituencies. It is only by some such plan as that adopted at Birmingham, which is capable of evoking popular enthusiasm, that the great agencies, clerical and otherwise, at the beck and call of the Conservative party, can be counteracted. Such a motive power must be set in operation unless the Liberal party is to remain in the Slough of Despond. There is abundant evidence that when the present war is over, the country will be ready to make larger demands for Liberal progress. And we hope the energetic Radical leaders at Birmingham will be prepared to give the movement a right direction. It is evident enough that Mr. Gladstone will be prepared to respond to popular feeling, and with his co-operation the adhesion of the official leaders of the party will be only a question of time.

THE DEACONESSES' INSTITUTION, TOTTENHAM.—The ninth annual meeting of the friends and supporters of the Evangelical Protestant Deaconesses' Institution and Training Hospital was held on Saturday in the building at Tottenham. Luncheon was served in the afternoon in a large marquee erected in the grounds, and was followed by a meeting over which Mr. Samuel Morley, M.P., presided, amongst those present being Mr. J. Morley, the Rev. Hugh McSorley, Mr. W. Fowler, the Rev. Dr. Cox, the Rev. Dr. Rossignol, and many ladies. Dr. Laserson read the annual report, which spoke gratefully of the increasing value of the institution as a training hospital for nurses. The number of cases nursed by the sisters at the parent house, irrespective of branch hospitals at Perth, Sunderland, Cork, and Enfield, was 401, and the out-patients numbered in all 5,661, the council regretting that they had often been unable to respond to all the applications for the services of the nurses, owing to the small staff at their disposal. With regard to their financial position, Dr. Laserson stated that although they had no large surplus at the bank, for the first time since the foundation of the hospital, they had been able to meet their current expenditure. The chairman, in the course of a brief address, said he had a growing conviction of the value of institutions of this kind. In his own family, on more than one occasion, great benefit had been derived from the employment of the nurses from this institution. The majority of establishments of this kind were ecclesiastical in their connections and tendencies, and he must confess that till lately he regarded with a good deal of distaste the use of the word "sister," but he was now satisfied that in the case of the Tottenham Home nothing either denominational or ecclesiastical was meant by the term. The report having been adopted, addresses by other gentlemen followed, and the proceedings closed by a vote of thanks to the chairman.

#### Literature.

##### LORD BEACONSFIELD.\*

We must confess that in many respects this is not a book that suits our taste. It is a painful duty to be required, as critics, to read a thick volume of 750 pages of which the one aim is to denounce with fierce and uncompromising severity the public life and character of one man. We do not envy the author the labour of compiling such a work, hunting amidst old and forgotten records for details of events, speeches, letters, writings, which belong to the annals of the last generation—with the perpetually-recurring conclusion that each and all of them pronounce a condemnation of the most damaging character on the man to whom they refer. Yet we cannot but allow that such a work as this deserves the very gravest consideration from all who value the character of our public men, who are jealous for the honour and credit of England, and who are humiliated and put to shame when they see the foremost place in influence and authority occupied by a man from whose career all that is noble, lofty, generous, sincere, self-denying is conspicuously absent. For this reason we earnestly commend this volume to the careful consideration of our readers. It is necessary that the facts of Lord Beaconsfield's public life should be thoroughly known and impartially reviewed. For it is his public life only of which this volume treats. There is no private scandal. We are willing to believe that none exists—and we cannot find in this volume the indication of any wish to look for any. All that belongs to Lord Beaconsfield's public life is fair matter for the most free and unreserved criticism; and if it will not bear examination, if it excites indignation, reprobation, contempt, it is only right that the public, whose power he is wielding either for incalculable good, or for unmeasured evil, should be challenged to ask itself how long the scandal of such a leader is to be tolerated.

It is not necessary that we should reproduce many of the details of this book for our readers. It is rather our object to point the moral which they suggest, and to induce our readers to look into the facts for themselves. We can in all sincerity declare that our own antagonism to Lord Beaconsfield does not rest on merely party grounds. We are quite ready to show respect to intellect and character when they appear in the Conservative ranks, quite as much as when they belong to the Liberal side. On the whole we are proud of the character of our public men; the lustre which they confer on our national life is a glory and a possession for us all. Political disagreement is never with us a barrier to personal regard and respect, and we should think there are few Liberals who would refuse their goodwill and esteem to such men as Lord Salisbury, Lord Cairns, Mr. Cross, and Sir Stafford Northcote. But we have always felt that we are separated from Lord Beaconsfield, not only by party distinctions but by personal revolting and distrust. We have scarcely ever read one of his speeches without feeling qualms of disgust at the impression which is conveyed of insincerity and heartlessness. We never could persuade ourselves that he believed his own words or was convinced by his own arguments. There is a histrionic air about all his utterances which leads us to think it quite an accident that the actor appears in this particular impersonation; he might just as well have performed his part in another and an opposite character. The writer of this work remarks, what must have occurred to most readers of Mr. Disraeli's speeches, that he is usually, when in Opposition, in a state of chronic alarm. A melodramatic terror haunts him as he views the proceedings he has undertaken to criticise and denounce. He trembles for his country—the Constitution is in danger—he conjures up phantoms of evil that all the laws of logic and of fate must unite in bringing down upon us—he is in an agony of anxiety and apprehension. His antagonists are gloomy conspirators of deepest dye and most desperate determinations. This sort of thing has been repeated so often that we have often wondered how it is that his own adherents have not discovered the trick of it, and refused to endorse and applaud it. There is in all such rhetoric a perpetual air of exaggeration and unreality which ought to repel honest men, a quality special and peculiar to this one man, which makes one astonished that any respectable body of citizens should accept him as their leader. This sort of exaggerated alarm when in Opposition is applied by Lord Beaconsfield not only to the measures but to the men whom he criticizes.

\* Benjamin Disraeli, Earl of Beaconsfield. A Biography. Vol. I. (London: Beeton, 1877.)



But in addition to this, in his references to political opponents there is a bitterness and malignity which cannot arise from mere difference of opinion; he not only refutes, as best he can, his political foes—he hates them. In the House of Commons Mr. Disraeli's most memorable encounters with his antagonists have uniformly taken the shape of angry and venomous personal attack. There is a sanguinary violence about them which in the earlier decades of this century would have infallibly issued in duels and outrage. He is fond of innuendo, cutting and sarcastic allusions, which sting and irritate and bring into play passions and excitements which properly belong to the prize-ring or to a stand-up street-fight. Nothing was more noticeable in the debates on the last Reform Bill than the contrast between Mr. Gladstone's and Mr. Disraeli's speeches from this point of view. Mr. Gladstone's mind was occupied with the real work that was being done, its principles, tendencies, scope, and details. His references to the personal attacks of his opponents were always of the briefest and most hurried character—no personal considerations could lay any strong hold upon him—his mind was occupied and absorbed by lofty public aims. Not so Mr. Disraeli. In his speeches the personal element was always predominant, and the public one subordinate. His most cherished aim is accomplished if he can make the contest a gladiatorial exhibition, and see his rival wounded and rolling in the dust. He is jealous of the possessors of power, and directs his opposition against them quite as much as against their measures, and generally a great deal more so. There is a striking illustration of this in a speech of Mr. Disraeli's delivered in 1841, when Free Trade was beginning to be a popular question. Mr. Disraeli's aversion to Free Trade became pronounced and definite only when he found he could make political capital by opposing it. There is every indication that he would have joined Sir Robert Peel in carrying out the principles of Free Trade to any possible extent, if Sir Robert had only asked him to do so. But Sir Robert Peel distrusted him, treated him coldly, saw through his shallow pretences and insincere professions, and so converted him from an active ally to a determined enemy. But in 1841 Mr. Disraeli was quite ready to go into office on a Free Trade programme.

"The question was," he declared, "not whether the proposed measures were necessary, but whether a discussion of those measures ought to be entered upon under the auspices of the present possessors of official power."

Exactly so! This has been Mr. Disraeli's attitude throughout the whole of his public career. He has opposed every reforming measure (except the admission of the Jews to Parliament—for obvious reasons) till he could make it an instrument of personal advancement, and then he has suddenly discovered that the advocacy of these measures belongs to the Tory party, and that what he has been opposing is not the genuine reform at all, but only a defective, mutilated, and apocryphal version of it.

As a young man Mr. Disraeli was sufficiently remarkable. He has drawn his own portrait in his earliest novel, "Vivian Grey," and the picture there given harmonises well with contemporary accounts. He was consciously the possessor of brilliant abilities—full of bold, flashing, epigrammatic talk, ready with arguments, sophisms, audacious paradoxes, to support any thesis he chose to adopt. As to his personal appearance, Mr. Jeaffreson writes,

He was an egregious dandy. Foppery to an extreme of extravagance was the mode with him thirty years ago; but he outstripped every one of his competitors in personal adornment. At this day matrons of fashion often recall the graces, the separate trappings, and the entire appearance of Disraeli the younger, as he made his first essay in the great world; his ringlets of silken black hair, his flashing eyes, his effeminate air and piping voice, his dress-coat of black velvet lined with white satin, his white kid gloves, with his wrist surmounted by a long hanging fringe of black silk, and his ivory cane, of which the handle, inlaid with gold, was relieved by some black silk in the shape of a tassel.

His conversation is thus described by Mr. Willis—the topic was Beckford of Fonthill, and the writer says:—

Disraeli was the only one at the table who knew him, and the style in which he gave a sketch of his habits and manners was worthy of himself. I might as well attempt to gather up the foam of the sea as to convey an idea of the extraordinary language in which he clothed his description. There were at least five words in every sentence that must have been very much astonished at the use they were put to, and yet no others apparently could so well have conveyed his idea. He talked like a race horse approaching the winning-post—every muscle in action, and the utmost energy of expression flung into every burst. . . . No mystic priest of the Corybantes could have worked up himself into a finer frenzy of language.

His aims and principles are best described by himself. For although he would gladly have suppressed "Vivian Grey," and in his latest republication asked the "indulgence of the

reader for its continued and inevitable re-appearance," yet the striking correspondence between Vivian Grey's theories and Mr. Disraeli's practice can only be explained by the fact that he was, when writing his earliest novel, whether consciously or unconsciously, his own hero. Vivian Grey is a young man who begins life with a completely elaborated system of cynical philosophy. When nineteen years of age, he was "a cunning reader of human hearts, and felt conscious that his was a tongue which was born to guide human beings." He finds that in order to rule men he must descend to the level of their follies and vices:—

Yes! We must mix with the herd; we must enter into their feelings; we must humour their weaknesses; we must sympathise with the sorrows that we do not feel, and share the merriment of fools. Oh, yes! to rule men we must be men; to prove that we are strong, we must be weak; to prove that we are giants we must be dwarfs. . . . I have often been struck by the ancient tales of Jupiter's visit to earth. In these fanciful adventures, the god bore no indication of the Thunderer's glory, but was a man of low estate, a herdsman, a hind, often even an animal. . . . Even in the same spirit I would explain Jove's terrestrial visitings; for to govern men, even the god appeared to feel as a man, and, sometimes, as a beast, was apparently influenced by their vilest passions. . . . A smile for a friend and a sneer for the world is the way to govern mankind; and such was the motto of Vivian Grey.

Our author thus summarises his impressions of Vivian Grey:—

Such is Vivian Grey! Without desiring to talk the language either of gush or cant, we must say that it is to our mind one of the most saddening books ever written. Here is a young man who is not ashamed to stand before the world convicted on his own confessions of utter want of truthfulness, principle, or good feeling. An author of twenty-one or twenty-two years talks with the cynicism, the hardness, and the want of scruple that usually are found in men only who have passed a bitter maturity, through years of suffering, oppression, and unresisted temptations. Vivian Grey is probably the worst expression ever printed of selfish and cynical precocity.

In 1832 Mr. Disraeli first presented himself as a candidate for a seat in Parliament. He contested the small borough of High Wycombe. He claimed the votes of the electors as a Radical, and as the Whigs were just then unpopular, he hoped to catch the Tories by opposing them. This was the first specimen of the audacity with which he has endeavoured to engraft a Radical creed on a Conservative and reactionary stock. But in this instance the Radicalism was in reality the stock, and doubtless, if it had succeeded, Mr. Disraeli would have been known solely as an opponent of the Whigs in the interests of the extreme types of Liberalism. His candidature was publicly endorsed by letters from Sir Edward Lytton Bulwer, at that time an out-and-out Radical, Mr. Hume, Sir Francis Burdett, and (strangest of all!) Daniel O'Connell. Mr. Disraeli, however, was defeated, but returned to the contest in a few weeks on the dissolution of Parliament. He then advocated triennial Parliaments, vote by ballot, repeal of the taxes on knowledge, and such modifications of the Corn Laws as will "relieve the customer without injuring the farmer." His candidature was again unsuccessful, but soon after he addressed himself to the electors of Marylebone with substantially the same professions, boasting his independence of aristocratic parties, and adopting what was then the most characteristic article of the Radical creed—the advocacy of a land-tax. "I am desirous of seeing a Parliamentary committee appointed to revise the entire system of our taxation, with the object of relieving industry from those encumbrances which property is more capacitated to endure." He also advocated the abolition of tithes in Ireland. By these professions he identified himself with the party represented by Mr. Hume, Mr. Cobbett, and Mr. Attwood, a prominent Radical. A year afterwards the agricultural interest gained ascendancy; the Whigs were no longer powerful; the Duke of Wellington and Sir Robert Peel had been sent for; hope and expectation centred in the landed interest. Mr. Disraeli forgot all about his suggested land-tax, snubbed the manufacturing interest, and appeared as a supporter of the Tory party. "The great object," he announced, "for which I laboured is attained; the balance of parties is restored; and now, gentlemen, I no longer advocate the measures in question, merely because they are no longer necessary." That is, as our author cogently remarks, "The cry of triennial Parliaments and vote by ballot were merely put forward to catch the Radical vote for the Tory party, and the Tory party having once more become strong, these baits were no longer necessary." In order to purge himself completely of Radicalism, Mr. Disraeli denounced his former backer, Mr. O'Connell, and drew upon himself the scathing denunciations of that master of invective. Mr. O'Connell's speech is given in the volume before us, and is a memorable specimen of the trenchant style with which the

great agitator was accustomed to scourge those who provoked him. This led to an angry correspondence between Mr. Disraeli and Mr. Morgan O'Connell, the agitator's son, whom Mr. Disraeli challenged to a duel on his father's account. Subsequently, Mr. Disraeli denied that Mr. O'Connell had ever written to him to forward his election as a Radical member, and charged Mr. O'Connell with "unadulterated falsehood" in referring to it—Mr. Disraeli's denial being an equivocation arising from the fact that O'Connell's letter was not addressed directly to himself.

Mr. Disraeli was elected for Maidstone in 1837, defeating the veteran reformer Colonel Perronet Thompson. We cannot now follow him through his Parliamentary career. The writer of the biography before us traces his course step by step; reproduces the fantastic but clever maiden speech, which the House would not listen to—not apparently because he was obscure and unknown, for he had been a conspicuous politician and an indefatigable newspaper correspondent for years, emulating the fame of Junius in his famous "Runnymede" letters to the *Times*, in which the leading statesmen of the day were criticised with a freedom which would not easily find opportunity of expression in our own more polite era. Mr. Disraeli's maiden speech was a failure, not because he was unknown, but because he was too well known, and his rejection had in it a large admixture of contempt. A week after his failure he spoke again, briefly and safely, and during his first session his attempts were of this brief and tentative character. The next session he took a bolder course, and appeared in several important debates. He made a characteristic speech in reference to the Chartist petition presented in 1839; with his usual audacity in flinging out paradoxes which no one believes but himself, he maintained that the cause of popular discontent was the Reform Act of 1832, by which the Whigs had "destroyed the Constitution," and replaced it by another which was the fruitful cause of agitation and discontent. He professed sympathy with the Chartists, while disapproving of the Charter; but he voted against the motion for a committee to inquire into their demands. Subsequently he prophesied that "the time would come when Chartists would discover that in a country so aristocratic as England, even treason, to be successful, must be patrician!" At the general election of 1841 Mr. Disraeli was returned for Shrewsbury, and from this time the contest between Protection and Free Trade took definite shape. The Whigs advocated Free Trade, but their power was waning; and Mr. Disraeli took an early opportunity of expounding his theory that Free Trade was not the sole property of the Liberal party, and that efficient Free-Trade measures were far more likely to come from a Ministry under Sir Robert Peel than from that of Lord Melbourne. He was evidently prepared to advocate Free Trade if he could float into office upon it. Accordingly, he was for some time obsequious to Sir R. Peel, who speedily became Prime Minister, but did not confer any appointment on Mr. Disraeli. Still, he did not at once break away from his allegiance. When Sir Robert brought in his famous sliding-scale, in 1842, Mr. Disraeli, *more suo*, treated the House to a fanciful disquisition on "the pedigree of those particular dogmas," tracing them to Mr. Pitt, Lord Liverpool, and Mr. Huskisson, Tory statesmen, and claiming them as the especial property of the Tory party, drawing from Mr. Hume the following remarkable certificate:—

Although the honourable member had claimed credit for his party as Free Traders, he (Mr. Hume) could only hail the honourable gentlemen opposite as proselytes to those principles which had been advocated by hon. gentlemen on that side of the House; but he cared not to which side of the House the credit belonged, being satisfied that the principles of Free Trade had at length been adopted.

Still, Sir Robert Peel received his advances with coldness, and Mr. Disraeli, finding that alliance with him was not the avenue to promotion, altered his tactics. At first he assumed the part of common instructor of both sides of the House. Thus he soon announced that Protection and Free Trade meant one and the same thing. And so on, till, by the time that Sir Robert Peel had advanced to a full measure of Free Trade, Mr. Disraeli had become his most determined and bitter assailant, heaping upon him every accusation of perfidy, treachery, and inconsistency that he could find or invent, and joining with Lord George Bentinck in charges which, if sustained, would have loaded him with infamy. Sir Robert Peel's self-vindication was complete—but Mr. Disraeli's attacks were successful in disorganising his party and driving him from office.

Mr. Disraeli has from that time been the recognised leader of the Tory party. We know of



nothing in all the annals of Parliamentary history more anomalous and more discreditable than his success. History has long decided that Sir Robert Peel was a true patriot, and that the fierce assaults which Mr. Disraeli made upon him were disgraceful only to the assailant and to those who allowed themselves to be influenced by him. What could be expected from such a leadership, originating in this discreditable way? No one can be surprised at the result. Mr. Disraeli has effectually "educated" his party, and his corrupting influence has become increasingly manifest in the ever-increasing flavour of personality, bitterness and disingenuousness that has been infused into party contests! What in the leader appears as polished sarcasm, fine innuendo, cynical scorn, is too apt to be reproduced in the followers as ungentelemanly wrath, rabid denunciation, and blind resistance to fact and reason. Scarcely any political meeting is held in the country that does not bear traces of the demoralising blight that has been introduced into the discussion of public and national affairs by the baleful leadership to which Conservatism has been committed. And the echoes of Lord Beaconsfield's cynicism act like a fetid and poisonous blast on the public opinion of the country. The tremendous and unparalleled agitation that has continued with intermissions from last August up to the present time finds its one justification in the necessity of neutralising Lord Beaconsfield's influence, and thwarting his obvious intention of involving us in a war with Russia in defence of Turkey. Mr. Gladstone need enunciate no policy in order to vindicate all the letters, pamphlets, and speeches that he has produced. The simple necessity of making Lord Beaconsfield harmless, explains and justifies them all. We believe that the Conservative party is still destined to deserve well of the nation, and to do great and honourable things—but this can never happen till it has emancipated itself from Lord Beaconsfield, and unlearned the monstrous lesson which he has taught them of explaining all patriotic enthusiasm and political earnestness by the imputation of personal and interested motives. This must be their attitude to opponents so long as they surrender themselves to the heartless cynicism and sardonic selfishness of Vivian Grey.

#### "THE TALMUD."

When Mr. Deutsch, in his *Quarterly* article, called attention to the value of the "Talmud," the information which he gave came by surprise upon the majority of readers. Scholars, while recognising the great ability with which Mr. Deutsch had treated his subject, were aware that that gentleman had told to some English readers really very little that was new. His great merit was that he had told his story better than it had been told before—a sufficient praise for any man who has lived to the present day. But the work before us, which Messrs. Warne, with rarely equalled enterprise, have included in their cheap series of the "Chandos Classics," is worth any number of articles. We have in it nearly four hundred pages of classified, characteristic extracts. As we read these, we wonder that no such translation was ever executed before; and yet Mr. Polano's preface bears date "Tamuz, 5636," and therefore the work was finished only late last year. We shall be surprised if it is not eagerly bought up, and to such an extent as to justify its appearance in this cheap and accessible form.

No one, of course, knows how old the earliest portions of the "Talmud" are. Some of them may well date to a period in Jewish history almost as remote as that of Moses himself, and no doubt we have, here and there, embedded in a lot of rubbish, history quite as authentic as that handed down to us in the sacred records. If we felt inclined—"looking a gift-horse in the mouth"—to criticise Mr. Polano's performance at all, which we do not, we should say that he has given us most of the best parts of this singular work, and very little of the worst. Some of that work is merely childish, some of it worse than childish; but, at its worst, it is remarkable. Just as no other religion can show such records as the Jewish and the Christian religions, so no other religion can exhibit such a literature, occasioned by, and dependent upon, the original records. What other Scriptures have occasioned such study as these? Mr. Polano in his "Introduction" says:—

The Talmud is divided into two parts, *Mishna* and *Gemarah*. They are the continued works of successive Rabbis, chiefs or principals of the colleges in which they devoted their lives to study. Most of the redactors of the *Mishna* were dead, however, long before the *Gemarah* was commenced. The time consumed in the completion of the entire Talmud is stated

to have been three hundred and eleven years. In its present form it consists of twelve folio volumes, containing the precepts of the Pentateuch with extended commentaries upon them; amplified Biblical incidents; occurrences affecting the religious life of those who prepared it; philosophical treatises; stories, traditions, and parables. It was called the oral or unwritten law, in contradistinction to the Pentateuch, which remained under all circumstances the immutable code, the divinely-given constitution, the *written* law.

The guardianship of the laws and traditions was vested in the chiefs of the colleges, known as "Scribes," "Men of the Great Synod," "Princes and Fathers of the House of Judgment." They instructed the people, preached in the synagogues, and taught in the schools. Nothing was allowed to seriously interrupt their duties. Palestine was ruled by various dynasties; the masters were martyred; the academies were destroyed; to study the law was made a crime against the State; yet the chain of living tradition remained intact. The dying masters appointed their successors, and, for one academy destroyed, three new ones sprang up in another quarter.

These masters were superior men, mentally and physically, and the scope of their learning was almost unlimited. To be eligible to the position, they were required to be men of well-balanced mind, neither too young nor too old, that their judgment might be neither hasty nor enfeebled. They were required to be thorough linguists, to be masters of the sciences of mathematics, botany, and natural history, and familiar with the arts as well as the sciences.

Of all the contents of this book the greatest value is to be attached to the proverbs and sayings of the Rabbis, in which much wisdom is concentrated in small space, but such sayings, even with their bright and quaint oriental settings, are to be met with elsewhere, although not in such remarkable fulness and variety as we find them in these old Jewish writings. But while these are the most valuable they are not the most curious of the contents of this work. Here, for instance, is the oldest of old-world anecdotes, which may have, for anything that we know, strong foundation in good tradition. It relates to Cain,—

Now as Lamech grew old, his eyes grew very dim, and finally all sight was taken from them, and Tubal-Cain, his son, led him by the hand when he walked abroad.

And it came to pass, when Tubal-Cain was still quite young, that he led his father into the fields to hunt, and he said to his father:

"Lo, yonder is a beast of prey, shoot thy arrow in that direction."

Lamech did as his son had spoken, and the arrow struck Cain, who was walking afar off, and killed him. Thus was Cain's blood shed even as he had shed the blood of Abel his brother.

Now when Lamech and his son drew near and saw that instead of a beast of prey they had killed their progenitor Cain, Lamech trembled exceedingly and clasped his hands heavily together in surprise, grief, and fright. Being blind, he saw not his son, and struck the lad's head between his hands, killing him instantly. When his wives discovered what their husband had done they upbraided and despised him.

A little farther, and we come to the last of the first progenitor and the history of Enoch,—

Adam died, nine hundred and thirty years old, when Lamech was sixty-five years of age. He was buried with great honours by Seth, Enoch, and Methuselah. His body was placed in a cave, which according to some authorities was the cave of Machpelah. From this time, the time of Adam's burial, it has been the custom to perform funeral obsequies over the dead.

Adam died because he had eaten of the fruit of the tree of knowledge, and through his sin must all his descendants likewise die, even as the Lord has spoken.

The year in which Adam died was the two hundred and fifty-third year of the reign of Enoch.

And it came to pass about this time that Enoch again felt a longing for solitude take possession of him, and he again withdrew from frequent communion with his people. He did not separate himself from them altogether; for three days he remained alone, and on the fourth he appeared to exhort and instruct them. But when a few years had passed he increased the periods of his withdrawal from the world, and separating himself from the people for six days, he preached to them upon the seventh. And after this he appeared before the people but one time in a year, and though they were desirous of seeing him and hearkening to his voice, save at this one time, they were unable to behold him.

And Enoch became so holy that the people feared him and dared not approach when he appeared before them, for the glory of heaven rested on his face. Yet when he spoke they assembled and listened to his words, and learning from his knowledge, they bowed before him, and cried aloud, "Long live the King!"

And it came to pass when the inhabitants of the world had learned from Enoch the ways of the Lord, an angel called to him from heaven, saying:

"Ascend, Enoch, ascend to heaven, and reign over the children of God in heaven as thou hast reigned over the children of men on earth."

Then Enoch assembled the people, and said to them, "I have been summoned to heaven, but I know not the day I shall ascend. Therefore let me teach you ere I go, reiterating the lessons which you have heard from my lips."

And Enoch made peace and harmony among the people, and pointed out to them the path to everlasting life. And his followers proclaimed aloud wherever men dwelt, "Who is he that wishes to live and to know the ways of the Lord? Let him seek Enoch and learn, ere he is taken from us and earth."

So Enoch taught the people and united them in peace and harmony.

Then Enoch mounted his horse and rode away, and a multitude of people followed him a day's journey.

And it came to pass on the second day that Enoch spoke to those who followed him, saying:

"Return to your tents! Wherefore follow me? Return, lest death overtake ye."

A number of the followers returned at these words, but others continued to journey with him; and every day he spoke to them, saying:

"Return, lest death overtake ye."

And on the sixth day there were still some who followed after him, and they said, "Where thou goest we will go; as the Lord liveth naught but death shall separate us"; so when Enoch saw that they were thus determined he spoke to them no more.

Those who went back on the sixth day knew how many they had left following, but of those whom they left on the sixth day not one returned.

And on the seventh day Enoch ascended to heaven in a whirlwind, with chariot and horses of fire.

And it came to pass after Enoch had gone up to heaven that the people started out to search for those men who had followed after him. And on the spot where they had left them they found deep snow and ice. They cut through the ice and they found there the dead bodies of the men for whom they were searching, but Enoch they did not find. Therefore is this the meaning of the words of Scripture, "And Enoch walked with God; and he was not" (he was not where search was made), "for God had taken him." (Gen. v. 24.)

And Enoch ascended to heaven when Lamech the son of Methuselah was one hundred and thirteen years old.

In like manner, we have traditions concerning most of the great men of the Antediluvian and patriarchal ages. The history of Nimrod is given in considerable detail, and we see how, as the Assyrian inscriptions have informed us, he was a great king amongst men. The conversion of Abraham is also given in detail and in the conversational style adopted by most old historians. In the "Talmud" Abraham is devoted by Nimrod to the death of the fiery furnace, as were the three youths of Babylon. This is the account,—

And both Abram and Charan were brought before the King, and in the presence of all the inhabitants their robes were removed from them, their hands and feet were bound, and they were cast into the flaming furnace.

Now the heat of the fire was so great that the twelve men who cast them therein were consumed by it, yet God had compassion upon his servant Abram, and though the ropes which bound him were burned from off his limbs, he walked upright through the fire, unharmed. But Charan, his brother, whose heart was not the Lord's, met instantaneous death in the flames. And the servants of the king called out to their master:

"Behold, Abram walks unhurt through the flames, the ropes with which we bound him are consumed, yet he is uninjured."

The king refused to believe so wonderful a thing, and sent trusted officers to look into the furnace, and when they corroborated the words of their inferiors the king was lost in amazement, and commanded his officers to take Abram out of the fire. They were not able, however, to execute his order, for the forks of flame blazed in their faces and they fled from the great heat.

And the king reproached them, saying ironically:

"Haste ye,—take Abram out, else he may die."

But their second attempt was fruitless as the first, and in it eight men were burned to death.

Then the king called to Abram, saying:

"Servant of the God of Heaven, come forth from the fire and stand before me."

And Abram walked out of the fire and the furnace and stood before the king. And when the king saw that not even a hair of Abram's head was singed by the flame, he expressed wonder and amazement.

"The God of Heaven, in whom I trust," said Abram, "and in whose hand are all things, hath delivered me from the flames."

And the princes of the king bowed before Abram, but he said to them:

"Bow not to me, but to the great God of the Universe, who hath created you. Serve Him and walk in His ways; He is powerful to deliver and to save from death."

The king, too, looked on Abram with awe, and made him many valuable presents, and parted from him in peace.

These extracts will give some idea of the historical portions of this work, illustrations of which are carried down to the time of Solomon. These, however, we will not quote. Next comes a history of the "Rabbis, their Teachings, and Incidents in their Lives." It is very curious and very Eastern, although, by-the-by, there are notices of Rabbis who lived in France and elsewhere not many hundreds of years ago. We do not seem to care much about these, although we are indebted to them, in most part, for the compilation of this work, as well as in great measure for the preservation of the Scriptures themselves. One of the greatest was Rabbi Ishmael, the High Priest, who was killed by the Romans. See how this "old man wise" deals with the doctrines of immortality and free-will. Here is a great deal of theology in very few words:—

They who imagine the doctrine of immortality to be an outgrowth of man's vanity, claiming for himself an imaginary preference above other creatures; they who believe it an ancient fiction, without which no courts of law would be able to check the natural proneness of man towards evil doing, could never rise to the courage and sublimity of martyrdom. To Ishmael, common observation as well as innate principles proved the truth of his belief.

First, no atom of matter, in the whole vastness of the universe, is lost; how, then, can man's soul, which comprises the whole world in one idea, be lost?

Secondly, in all nature death is but a transformation; with the soul it is the portal to a new and higher realm.

Thirdly, our thoughts and feelings, emanating from the soul, are not of an earthly nature.

Rabbi Ishmael also advocated with energy the doctrine of man's free agency.

"When a man enters upon the path of truth and justice," said he, "God helps him forward, but when

\* The Talmud. Selections from the Contents. Translated from the Original by H. POLANO. (Fredk. Warne and Co.)



he chooses the way of sin, God says, 'I gave thee reason and free will, go thy way,' even as the trader will wait upon the customer who purchases a good and pleasant article, while to one who desires pitch or sulphur, he says, 'Go, wait upon thyself.'

Many ask, "Why does God permit so much corruption and evil?" Rabbi Ishmael answers, "Not God, but ye, yourselves, are the creators and supporters of moral evils. When a field is covered by weeds, shall a farmer complain to God? No; let him blame himself for his carelessness and neglect. Noble, indeed, is the feeling of the man who reflects that his virtue is his own work, and truly woful is the profligate who cannot but know that his guilt is his alone. 'To the pure help cometh from on high,' was the sentence which cheered our pious forefathers, and which should encourage us."

We must close with just a few extracts from the "Proverbs and Sayings," and only a few:—

Many a colt's skin is fashioned to the saddle which its mother bears.

Truth is heavy, therefore few care to carry it.

Say little and do much.

He who multiplieth words will likely come to sin.

Sacrifice thy will for others, that they may be disposed to sacrifice their wills for thee.

Study to-day, delay not.

Look not upon thy prayers as on a task; let thy supplications be sincere.

He who is loved by man is loved by God.

Honour the sons of the poor; they give to science its splendour.

Do not live near a pious fool.

A small coin in a large jar makes a great noise.

Use thy noble vase to-day; to-morrow it may break.

The cat and the rat make peace over a carcass.

He who walks each day over his estate finds a coin daily.

The dog follows thee for the crumbs in thy pocket.

The soldiers fight, and the kings are heroes.

When the ox is down many are the butchers.

Descend a step in choosing thy wife; ascend a step in choosing thy friend.

#### "WEATHER CHARTS AND STORM WARNINGS."

"Weather permitting" is a phrase of large import. None of us, however stoical through experience or disappointment, can escape altogether some vicarious dependence on what they involve. Hopes and fears relating to many little enjoyments of life are bound up in them; and far more than that. The sailor at sea, the fisherman, the traveller, is at the mercy of rain and storm; and any scientific knowledge that can lead him to foresee and prepare must be of immeasurable value. During the last half-century, the observations on wind and weather have been reduced to such scientific consistency that, by the aid of barometer "dry bulb," and "wet bulb" thermometer, with the odd addition of a leech in a bottle with an electric conductor to indicate, by the leech's motions, the measure of electricity in the air, a careful and observant person can in the morning come pretty close to a knowledge of what the day is to be, thus putting himself twenty-four hours ahead, as we may say, of the weather-charts of the morning papers, whose business it is to tell what wind and weather were, rather than to "prospect" what they will be. But the nation has set in order a machinery of a more adequate scope to contend with variant and apparently conflicting phenomena. This is the Meteorological Office, which was established in 1861, and is so associated with the name of Admiral Fitzroy, that his cones and drum-signals which are hoisted at certain points to announce a coming storm, are to people in general the most tangible symbol of the work of the office. Any one who wishes to get a clear account of the machinery of this public department, which has already done so much to save life, could not do better than procure and read with care the volume we now have in our hand. Mr. Scott writes with great clearness and arranges his matter admirably; and, notwithstanding that he is somewhat too severe and dry for a popular writer, his book is so full of facts of interest, and so admirably arranged, that it will no doubt be widely circulated, and tend to stir up that kind of observation which would furnish a most efficient adjunct to the work of the Meteorological Office. Mr. Scott first deals with the materials for weather study, speaking specially of atmospheric pressure, temperature, humidity, rain, wind, sea-disturbance, &c. In the course of his chapter, that delicate comparison and checking of what seem mutually exclusive phenomena, to educe a fixed and certain result, which goes for so much in weather study, is indicated with great skill. In the next chapter the wind is dealt with in a very satisfactory and exhaustive manner. We may give the following extracts as likely to be generally read with interest:—

Every one knows that the East is very different in its character from the West wind, the former being reputed to be "good neither for man nor beast." Any one with a touch of bronchitis or rheumatism can (or at least thinks he can) tell you, without looking at a

weather-cock, whether or not there is easting in the wind. This contrast arises from the fact that as a rule the temperature and dampness of the air in Western Europe are both lowest when the wind is about north-east, and highest when it is about south-west. This is, however, a local phenomenon peculiar to certain parts of the globe, for if we travel from Western Europe, on the same parallel of latitude as our own, either eastwards to the Sea of Ochotsk or westwards to Labrador, we shall find that in these districts the coldest wind is near North-west, and the warmest about south-east. In each case the coldest and driest point of the compass lies towards that region in the neighbourhood of the point of observation where the mean temperature is the lowest. In these islands, in winter, this region is northern Russia, in Labrador it is the Barren Grounds of the Hudson's Bay territory, and at the mouth of the Amur it is the district of Yakutsk. These two latter cold regions lie to the north-west of the respective coast districts to which reference has been made.

The wind, then, is cold and dry when it comes from a cold region, warm and moist when it comes from a warm district, such as the sea surface in these latitudes in winter. In summer there is not so strong a contrast between the temperature of different parts of the earth's surface in the northern hemisphere as in winter, and so the different winds do not differ so much in their characters.

Storms were formerly divided into two great classes, circular storms (hurricanes and typhoons), and straight-line storms. The former are almost the only class of storms which occur within the tropics, and are known under the general name of cyclones. The latter class were formerly supposed to be the most usual type of storms in these latitudes, inasmuch as it is a common observation here that the wind will blow hard from the same point, and for a considerable length of time, over a large district. The study of observations take at the same hour over an extensive tract of the earth's surface has, however, shown that the storms of the temperate zone are almost without exception cyclonic, or partially so, in their character, although not so perfectly developed as those within the tropics. All cases of so-called straight-line storms are to be explained either by the persistence of the same characteristics for several days over the same region, or else simply by the fact that they are mere local phenomena, due to the contour of the country, like the exceptionally strong breezes often met with on rounding prominent bluff headlands, or, to use a more familiar illustration, at street corners. By this statement it is not meant to imply that strong winds from a definite point are not met with for days together in the region of the Trade Winds and Monsoons; but, firstly, these forces never reach those of an actual "strong gale," and, secondly, the conditions which cause them are of the same nature as those which cause our own storms, and it is the persistence of the conditions which determines the constancy in the force of the wind.

In speaking of the general character of storms, it should be mentioned that in most cases the vertical depth of the stratum of the atmosphere which is in the condition of storm is very small in comparison with the superficial extent of the area over which the storm is felt. Everyone knows that it is a common occurrence to see clouds at a moderate elevation either moving rapidly while calm prevails below, or else at rest or nearly so, while we are feeling a strong wind. On a recent occasion, August 18, 1875, when a tornado passed over a village in Sweden called Hallsberg, in the province of Nerike, it was expressly noticed that while the branches of trees and fragments of the wreck of buildings were carried by the wind for miles, the clouds did not indicate the slightest sign of disturbance.

The barometer is next dealt with, and the nature of isobars fully explained; then "gradients" and their special significance, with diagrams which are most helpful; then cyclones and anti-cyclones are dealt with; and we are astonished at the careful and patient survey of the mass of reports, out of which so clear an idea has come of their motion and the determining law of their areas and scope.

There is one point in connection with cyclonic disturbances, which is gradually attracting more and more attention, and that is the appearance of secondary eddies in connection with the larger areas of barometrical depression. These smaller systems are usually less perfectly developed than the larger ones, and they manifest themselves in general on the southern sides of the latter. Accordingly, while they cannot exhibit any Easterly winds of much force (owing to the fact that pressure is lower on their northern than on their southern edge), they intensify the westerly winds on the extreme southern edge of the original disturbance by increasing the gradients in that part of the system.

It is probably owing to these circumstances that easterly winds are so rare in our storms. Investigations into the distribution of pressure over the earth's surface have shown that there is an almost constant deficiency of pressure in the neighbourhood of Iceland, and so probably most of the depressions which cause our storms are simply secondary to a vastly more extensive area of depression over the North Atlantic.

Whilst, however, invariable effects are found in relation to certain causes, the causes themselves are unknown. Mr. Scott writes of one of the points on which meteorological science is yet but dimly feeling its way: "We know very little about the rate at which a storm is moving until it has advanced well within the area of our telegraphic reporting system. We are also virtually ignorant of what the real cause of this motion of storms is, whether it is due to the change of position of the entire mass of disturbed air, or to the production of a depression in front of the storm, while it is filling up in the rear." On the causes he cites other opinions:—

Mr. Thomas Belt and Professor Reye account for the origin of the storm by the existence of a condition of unstable equilibrium in the atmosphere; a cold stratum being situated at some height above the ground, if the air at the earth's surface becomes heated, it must even-

tually force its way through the superincumbent colder layer, and the upward current thus generated will be the core of the resulting cyclone. Professor Reye goes so far as to say that the storms of the largest dimensions experienced in these latitudes are substantially analogous to the smallest waterspouts or dust-whirls we can observe.

In direct contradiction to this view, M. Faye, in the "Annuaire du Bureau des Longitudes" for 1875, has propounded the view that cyclones are vortices, descending from the upper regions of the atmosphere to the earth's surface, and that their motion is that of the upper current.

Lastly, Mr. Meldrum and others consider that cyclones are always generated in the space intervening between two currents, which themselves are tangents to the nascent cyclone. Thus, in the north temperate zone, the conditions which would give rise to the cyclones are those which will be noticed at p. 131, of easterly winds on the northern side of westerly winds. We need hardly remind our readers that every perfectly developed cyclonic disturbance here must have east winds in the north and west winds in the south.

It is clear that when "doctors differ" to the extent indicated in the above sketches of the different theories, the world in general must be content to wait patiently for a complete theory of weather to be developed.

By far the most interesting chapter in the book is the last on "Storm Warnings," which details Admiral Fitzroy's first system of signalling and the improvements which have been made on it. It says much for the lamented Admiral's scientific forecast that in essential his plan remains with several modifications and improvements of detail.

We remember to have read lately in a northern newspaper a suggestion based on a good deal of observation that outdoor naturalists should be attached to the Meteorological Office, to report especially on the movements of birds, and the forms and movements of clouds. Mr. Scott himself admits at pp. 12-13, that the reports on the clouds as given in the code are so condensed as to be of little or no use. "Anyone," he says, "trying to form a correct judgment of the look of the sky from this alone, is like a physician trying to deal with a case without a chance of a personal interview with his patient. What can a resident in an inland town like London know of the appearance of the weather on the seacoast on any day from a telegram, no matter how detailed?" Observations on such points are not to be looked at with a view to the immediate knowledge to be gained from them, but rather as data from which some approach to general principles may afterwards be deduced. The condensed telegrams have in view only immediate reference to safety from storms, and therefore such reports on forms of clouds, &c., are almost useless, as Mr. Scott says, but full observation of clouds, together with a detail of accompanying and invariable phenomena, might lead to some addition to scientific knowledge. We are fully justified in saying this from the experiments of Mr. A. Rowse and Mr. Espy with electricity. Mr. Weeks, in one place, writes as follows:—

I have from very early life been an assiduous experimenter with electrical kites, atmospheric exploring wires, &c. Now, I beg to assure you that it has several times happened that when my kite has been raised immediately under a distended, light, fleecy cloud, at a moderate elevation, a free current of sparks has passed from the apparatus during some ten or twelve minutes. I have sometimes found myself bedewed with a descent of fine, misty rain, and on looking up, have seen the cloud upon which it was operating, surprisingly reduced in magnitude.

And with respect to certain birds and their movements there can be no doubt that much valuable knowledge for weather warning might be gained by close observation. Mr. Emerson says somewhere that our dependence on the watch in our pockets has led to our losing the power which the Indian still has of telling the hour by the sun; and so dependence on a certain order of observations may cause official meteorologists to lose sight of other and more salient, and perhaps more reliable signs. They may seem so common as not to be worth the trouble. But, in the view of the principle aptly laid down by Mr. Emerson, there may be something more than mere fancy in the bird-lore of ancient Greece and other countries. Birds, says one, were the earliest almanacs in the world. The birds in Aristophanes' wild play of that name boast:—"We point out to men the work of each season: when the crane takes his flight across the Mediterranean, 'tis seed-time, 'tis time for the pilot to season his timber; again, the kite tells you when you ought to shear your sheep; the swallow, again, shows you when you should peel your watchcoats, and buy a light dress for the summer. We birds are the hinges of everything you do; we regulate your merchandise, your eating and drinking, your marriages."

We actually heard that an experiment was to be made by appointing a few outdoor naturalists for purposes of special observation in these lines, and we were led to believe that Mr. Edward, the Banffshire naturalist, was named as one of them. We are not aware that anything has been done; but we are convinced

\* *Weather Charts and Storm Warnings.* By ROBERT H. SCOTT, M.A., F.R.S., Director of the Meteorological Office. With numerous illustrations. (Henry S. King and Co.)



that in this direction lies a large field by which to supplement the work of the meteorological survey, and we are certain that a small staff of such reporters as Mr. Edward cannot be too soon added to the staff.

"BY STREAM AND SEA."

Mr. Senior has long been known as an interesting and original essayist. He is a keen observer—a confessed lover of the "gentle sport"—and combines with a fine picturesque touch, a quaint and efficient humour. All these qualities come out in a most attractive manner in this delightful volume, which, though it is designated "a book for anglers and wanderers," will, if we mistake not, be welcomed by many a stay-at-home reader, whose only relation to the main theme is that of pleasant youthful remembrances. Mr. Senior does not affect a rigid order; but a pervading idea gives a sufficient unity. It is pre-eminently a bright and breezy book—full of nature and odd out-of-the-way references; for the author combines something of the leisurely, self-enjoying method and reflectiveness of old Izaak Walton, with a little of the dash and energy and keen-eyed curiosity of Charles Kingsley, whom he much admires. He does not affect to be scientifically exact or exhaustive; and yet he cannot help throwing light on scientific subjects as he goes along. It is a friendly, companionable, gossiping book; but the author never condescends to trifling, there is a serious purpose behind his lighter touches, which attract and please you when anything hard and dry would repel, leading you on to the moods in which you can best enjoy reminiscences of nature's varied aspects. We can conceive of no better book for the holiday tour or the seaside, for just as Mr. Senior must have rambled through his Hertfordshire valley, and along the Itchen and by Izaak Walton's River, and through the Peak Country in this very mood, so he inspires it by the skill with which he writes, embodying a world of reflection and wide observation in very small compass. The chapter, "Charles Kingsley in the Saddle," is one of the most delightful, because here we have a fine human figure in the landscape, with which Mr. Senior sympathises so freely that he paints it with some original touches. "Modern Yarmouth" is full of freshness, though it is an old theme. The process of bloater-curing is well described, but the chief interest lies in the glimpses we get of the "hands." It is such a sketch as Dickens himself might have written. "Autumnal Rovings" is a very rapid sketch of a run through a part of Ireland. "Out of the Chalk" brightly describes the Wandle and the Darent. The second section—"My Ocean Log," describes a voyage to Australia through the Suez Canal and the Red Sea, by Singapore, &c. Mr. Senior could not help communicating much that is new in going over such ground; and the whole is good reading and full of information. What we like best, however, is the chapter on "Flying Fish and their Enemies," which is full of curious points. It is not easy to give any notion of such a book by extracts, though it does not aim at any systematic order. We can only afford room for two short extracts. The first shall be from "Modern Yarmouth":—

The "herring office," where the fish are converted into bloaters, is a very singular place. Upon the ground-floor the herrings recently arrived from the wharf are shot out of the swills upon the stones, transferred by great wooden shovels into a huge tub, thoroughly washed, and passed on to women—a much better type than those working about the wharf and in the ruder sheds—who thread them through one of the gill covers upon a long slender lath called a "spit," which accommodates five-and-twenty fish. The spits are then taken up into the smoke-room, a lofty barn-like apartment, full of dark-coloured frames and beams from floor to roof. The spits, charged with herrings, are placed horizontally in niches which receive the ends of the stick, the tiers extending to the ceiling overhead. The only aperture in this dusky room is in the centre of the roof, the great object being, when the drying process begins, to "draw" the smoke. The room being filled with tiers, containing sometimes as many as a hundred thousand fish, small wood fires—of oak, if possible—are kindled over the stone floor, and maintained without flame. The uncemented tiles above, and the one opening in the roof, promote a free draught, while the smoke from the oaken logs gives a fine colour to the fish. For certain markets where a particular colour is demanded, ash billets are substituted for oak. A few hours in the smoke-room are sufficient for a bloater, and the lower spits are used for that description of article. The fish higher up are left to dry according to the will of the curer, the last to be removed coming down as veritable red-herrings.

We have now seen the fresh herring sold and despatched, the pickled herring lightly salted and barrelled, the bloater and red-herring cured to a turn in the smoke-room, but there yet remain the kippers. The veteran boatman and fisherman pretend to know nothing about this process of kippering, which

they regard as a new-fangled notion that will ruin the country if persisted in. Probably they would think more kindly of it had it not been of Scotch origin. But there it is, increasing in importance every year. It employs large numbers of thrifty, homely women, mostly Scotch. The best quality of fish must be selected for kippering; no salt is used; the herrings are most carefully cleansed, and delicately and artistically smoked. Mr. Buckland, in a recent report on our East Coast Fisheries, estimates that a thousand lasts of herring per year are now required for kippering.

The next shall be a description of the Giant's Causeway and a storm on the Irish coast:—

As a basaltic formation, the Giant's Causeway is not perhaps so perfect and compact as Fingal's Cave; but it is larger, and its surroundings are finer. Could you, by any secret understanding with the winds, arrange so as to see the Antrim coast in both calm and storm, you would see it to perfection. We have had some very sudden changes of weather lately. Half the country between Portrush and Belfast, especially in the valley of the Banr, is under water, and the rivers, swollen and discoloured, have hastened the exodus of the salmon anglers. It has been a bad week for the Giant's Causeway. If you go to explore all its wonders, you require a calm sea and the wind anywhere but north or north-west. Saturday, for example, was a lovely day. The ocean sparkled calm and blue. Tiny fishing boats, scarce bigger as they vanished in the offing than the white sea-birds circling over your head, ventured far from home, leaving no anxiety behind them. The gentlest of breezes came sighing from the hills and valleys, keeping the entire line of shore, with its manifold wonders, clean and clear for the timidest of visitors.

The dreamy calm was as short lived as it was delusive. In a few hours all was changed. During the night a terrible storm arose, putting out beacon lights on the more exposed headlands, and forcing vessels of large tonnage to run for shelter into the landlocked natural harbours that abound in this region of Loughs. Where all was smiling at sunset, all was uproarious and angry at dawn. Great green rollers from the Atlantic burst fiercely upon the iron-girded shore, racing up the cliffs with a roar of rage, and expending themselves with many a struggle in white foam and spray, showered hundreds of feet into the air. A Scotch steamer, unable to make the harbour of Portrush, tossed uneasily at anchor under the lee of the Skerries.

The long line of rocky islets, which for centuries has stood firm as an advance guard to receive the first shock of the ocean's bombardment, lay quiet one day basking like Brobdingnagian seals in a calm sea; on the next day the mad billows leapt at a bound over them into the gorges and creeks and subterranean waterways and caves, the foam whirling into the interior, and whitening the green dunes as if with snow flakes. To reach the cliffs, from which alone on such a day the choicest portion of Causeway scenery can be commanded, could only be achieved by the hale and hearty; indeed, it could only be done at all by leaning down, as it were upon the gale, until your body represented the steep roof of a house, and you could walk in a position which the human form could never maintain unless breasted by such an unwonted support. Yet but a few hours ago we could enter Dunkerry Cave, seven hundred feet long, on the glassy water-floor.

THREE MAGAZINES.

Turkey is naturally prominent in the magazines of the current month; and there is no doubt that in the present uncertainty of the public mind, good service may be done by articles which take a more deliberate and comprehensive view of the Eastern Question than is possible to the rapid effusions of the daily press. We are not sure that this description would apply to the concluding article of the *Nineteenth Century*, by Viscount Stratford de Redcliffe, giving a bird's-eye-view of the past and present relations of Turkey to European policy. But it is at least interesting, and in an obvious sense valuable, to have the views of so eminent an authority on the subject. The article was written some years ago, and only a postscript refers to the present condition of affairs. His lordship gives a sketch of the long-continued amicable relations between England and the Porte, and he gives reasons which appears to him to have justified the policy involved. Our commerce with Turkey and its various provinces seems to have been very considerable, amounting to some eight or ten millions a year. When, however, we read, further on, the frank account that is given us of the depressing and demoralising influences of the Turkish Government and institutions, a presumption naturally arises that such commerce might have been doubled or trebled under a healthier political constitution. Much is made of our dependence on the Porte for our most direct and speedy communication with India. But this article was written before the opening of the Suez Canal, and the difference made by that event appears to be scarcely sufficiently estimated in the postscript. We are called upon to "imagine Egypt in the possession of a power whose population active, warlike, intelligent, and ambitious, is ever prone to entertain a jealous and not unfrequently a hostile feeling towards England." But the substitution of a maritime passage for a railway has absolutely necessitated the neutralisation of the isthmus, or the protection of some Power which can command the confidence of the civilised world. The position of things which we are called upon to imagine has therefore become simply

inconceivable. Lord Redcliffe himself also in describing the education of children in Turkey and the institutions of slavery and the harem, gives unanswerable reasons why Turkey is less and less to be trusted as the guardian of any region whatever. That is of importance to the civilisation of the world. "The various defects and sources of incalculable evil, thus rather enumerated than drawn out into their full proportions, are the more ruinous in a country where a low standard of knowledge, a rude system of finance, a loose method of collecting the revenue, and the want of internal communications, go far of themselves to neutralise the advantages of a splendid climate, a productive soil, and an unrivalled position as well for power as for trade."

This paragraph receives a striking and indeed a horrible illustration from an article in the *Fortnightly Review*, which it is very interesting to read along with Lord Redcliffe's lucubrations. It is called "A Leaf of Eastern History," and consists of extracts from the journal of the late Nassau W. Senior. Mr. Senior was brought into intimate communication with confidential servants of Mehemet Ali, and the light that is thus thrown on Mussulman ideas of government and justice is a little startling, even after the Bulgarian massacres. Take as an illustration the following extract of a conversation:—

"Abbas," said Hekekyan, "when a boy, had his pastrycook bastinadoed to death. Mehemet Ali mildly reproved him for it, as we should correct a child for killing a butterfly; he explained to his little grandson that such things ought not to be done without a motive."

"When Nazleh Hamen," I asked, "burnt her slave to death for giving her cold coffee, did her father interfere?"

"No," said Hekekyan, "he could not. That took place in a harem."

Even if England were willing to achieve a selfish end by insisting on the preservation of a barbarous and immoral empire, it is more than doubtful whether a process of dissolution springing from the deep and fatal causes indicated in these articles could be arrested without a miracle. Under these circumstances Mr. Edward Dicey, writing in the *Nineteenth Century*, boldly proposes a line of policy towards which many indications seem to point, although no Government as yet has distinctly announced it. He urges that England should take possession of the Isthmus and the Canal, and of such portions of Lower Egypt as may be necessary to the security of both. He thinks that in the existing condition of European politics the prevalent feeling would be one of satisfaction that the gate of the East had been committed to the keeping of a Power which has the most obvious interest in holding it open for the peaceful commerce of the whole world. We offer no opinion on his views, but we think he is entitled to the gratitude of a perplexed people for so plainly enunciating them; and the time is probably not far distant when public opinion will be called upon to pronounce for or against the policy thus indicated.

Another great question which occupies an ominously prominent position in the three magazines is—we may almost say, as usual—disestablishment and disendowment. Each of the magazines has an article on this subject. In the *Nineteenth Century* Mr. Mackonochie issues a manifesto which, we suppose, is put forth on behalf of the Church League. We have already referred to his views, and need not now return to them except to note with pleasure the unreserved manner in which he grants the national right to apply to other purposes the public property now devoted to ecclesiastical uses. He is inaccurate, indeed, in the account he gives of the origin of this public fund, and he expects too much when he imagines that the nation will be willing wholly to relinquish, in favour of a sect, its property in ancient parish churches. But the article has a considerable importance as showing the convictions now reached by the most active and earnest section of the clergy, convictions which are not in the least degree likely to be reversed, but will almost certainly grow rapidly in depth and practical power. A much more businesslike exposition of the subject is given by Mr. Crosskey in the *Fortnightly Review*, to which he contributes "Disendowment: a Practical Sketch." It is, in fact, a description of the suggestions drawn up by the committee of the Liberation Society, and therefore needs no explanation from us. Its appearance in such a magazine as the *Fortnightly* is timely, and will do much to mature public opinion. Thus we have disestablishment from the religious and also from the political point of view. The trilogy is completed by Mr. Llewellyn Davies in the *Contemporary*

\* *By Stream and Sea.* A Book for Anglers and Wanderers. By WILLIAM SENIOR (Red Spinner.) (Chatto and Windus.)



Review, by an article in which both politics and religion are alike conspicuous by their absence, while vague sentiment takes their place. The article is simply not worth discussing. It assumes that there is no alternative between Erastianism and Ecclesiasticism. It ignores the possibility of moral character in a State apart from its endowment of ceremonial religion. And it attempts in vain to resuscitate the vague dream of a comprehensive National Church whose creed shall contain such articles, and no others, as are endorsed by the smallest sect in the Episcopalian denomination.

## BRIEF NOTICES.

*The Word of God on True Marriage.* (Philadelphia: Claxton. London: Trubner.) We can quite imagine that this book may do some mischief and no good. Referring to the Mormons, the author says they make one assertion—"That the Bible, the Old Testament, at least, sanctions polygamy," while some Christians have also "given expression to opinions which seem to uphold the idea that, so far as the Scriptures of the Old Testament are concerned, polygamy is not a sin." He also says that "the great mistake of all Bible critics has been their false assumption that the men of Israel, because they were Oriental, were polygamists." Now, very few, we suppose, would really cloak license for themselves or others with the simple fact that some of the Old Testament men sinned and "did evil in the sight of the Lord." But why attempt to "get out of it"? The author says—"Search the Scriptures; you will then find that Moses wrote his laws for a people who did not recognise the usage of a plurality of wives among themselves any more than did our own progenitors." Granting this, what danger is there of plurality of wives amongst American and English Christians? There is something in what the author says concerning converted heathen, but the practice of missionaries in this respect is, as far as our information extends, unimpeachable.

*The Bishopric of Souls.* By ROBERT WILSON EVANS, B.D. With an Introductory Memoir by EDWARD BICKERSTETH, D.D., Dean of Lichfield. (Rivingtons.) Mr. Evans, of whom Dean Bickersteth writes a very graceful memoir, was a clergyman of rare activity and zeal, and, amongst other things, a very frequent writer. The work before us relates to the duty of a clergyman in its many aspects. It is acute, wise, sympathising, but a little more "Churchy" than we should have expected—although why we had any expectations regarding it we can hardly say. Mr. Evans, for instance, held very distinct views regarding the treatment of "Separatists," but still there is practical wisdom in what he says. "Do not, in your pursuit of charity, seek an impossibility, which is unity, at the expense of a certainty, which is good faith." Of course, there can be no unity as things are. There is a great deal from which all Christian ministers may learn in this work.

We have to report a second edition of the *Glory of the Cross*, by A. B. MACKAY. (Hodder and Stoughton.) The work is a series of addresses on the Crucifixion—impressive and eloquent.—*Israel in Canaan under Joshua and the Judges*, by Dr. EDERSHEIM (Religious Tract Society), is a book of ample information and sound Biblical criticism. Dr. Edersheim has special qualifications for such a work.—In the *Chairman's Handbook* (Knight and Co.) Mr. REGINALD PALGRAVE, the Clerk-Assistant of the House of Commons, has produced a work of considerable practical value. The reader knows the subject from the title, but cannot know, without the work, with what practical sagacity and experience Mr. Palgrave has treated it. The author addresses his little book, in a graceful letter, to the Speaker of the House of Commons.—Miss GRANT'S *Sun-Maid* has been added by Messrs. Warne and Co. to the "Companion Library" series. It is a bright novel, and the graphic pictures of Pau and its surrounding scenery, and of the Russian steppes, will long remain in the reader's memory.—A curious pamphlet is Mr. WILLIAM E. BEAR'S *An Agricultural Rip Van Winkle* (G. Matthews). Mr. Bear goes to sleep, as did his celebrated original, and wakes up to find all the old methods of farming altered. He describes what has taken place—anticipating, no doubt, what he imagines must soon come. The brochure is well conceived and amusing. Mr. Bear is evidently an agricultural reformer.

The third edition of "Swedenborg, the Spiritual Columbus," a work first issued a few months ago, is announced, with translations into Norwegian and German. This work, a brief sketch of Swedenborg's life and works, has, it is stated, been well received here and in America, and also on the con-

tinental. Mr. Pitman, the inventor of phonography, announces the issue by arrangement with the author of a special edition of the above work in a new system of phonetic spelling, styled "Gradual Phonotypy."

**CONVICT PRISON INSPECTION.**—During the debate on convict prisons in the House of Commons on Tuesday considerable portions of the pamphlet entitled "English Convict Prisons and Needed Reforms Therein," just issued by the Howard Association, were read to the House. In particular the following extract was read and supported:—"The convict prisons are practically closed to independent inspection. The few visitors admitted are closely and hastily escorted through, and, however observant, can gather very little real information, especially as to lurking corruptions. It was complained in Parliament, in 1877, that on an ex-M.P. visiting Dartmoor Convict Prison, to see a prisoner, whom he found with 'his neck much swollen, and a number of sores or ulcers round his throat,' that the convict 'absolutely cried for justice, and was about to relate the cruelties he had suffered, when the warders interfered, and informed him it was contrary to the rules of the prison to touch on those topics.' As to Dartmoor, the late and present governors have been anxious to do their duty. Nevertheless, it is quite possible that 'cruelties' may have been suffered in spite of them or without their knowledge. For example, the Howard Association has been recently informed that in winter the convicts there have suffered from excessive damp, and even ice in their cells. If this complaint is true it points to a needful improvement. It is not for a moment to be pleaded that prisons are to be made comfortable. On the contrary, they should be deterrent, so as to tend to become empty—the normal condition of a prison. Nor should prisoners ever be pampered; for this would be cruelty to the honest poor, by tempting them to crime. But even convicts should only have their legal punishment. Their rules of dietary, health, &c., should be justly and fully observed. Of late years there have been, on several occasions, serious complaints raised in Parliament, and by the Press, as to the treatment of convicts—the Fenians, for example. The charges made have been systematically denied, and perhaps sometimes with truth. But until there is frequent inspection of these prisons by independent outsiders, such official denials cannot be fully relied on by the public; for, of course, under the present military régime there will generally be found some warders or sub-officials prepared to assert or deny whatever they may suppose that the authorities will wish them to assert or deny. The authorities themselves are usually not present when abuses occur. They are, therefore, themselves ignorant. Yet their report is, practically, that which even a Home Secretary or a royal commission must base their statements on. So that the public, the Press, Parliament, and the Home Secretary are at present unable to prevent themselves from being kept in the dark all round, if abuses or cruelties occur in convict prisons. Really reliable and frequent inspection by independent outsiders is therefore a *sine qua non* of good convict prison administration."

**EPPS'S COCOA.**—GRATEFUL AND COMFORTING.—"By a thorough knowledge of the natural laws which govern the operations of digestion and nutrition, and by a careful application of the fine properties of well-selected cocoa, Mr. Epps has provided our breakfast-tables with a delicately flavoured beverage which may save us many heavy doctors' bills. It is by the judicious use of such articles of diet that a constitution may be gradually built up until strong enough to resist every tendency to disease. Hundreds of subtle maladies are floating around us ready to attack wherever there is a weak point. We may escape many a fatal shaft by keeping ourselves well fortified with pure blood and a properly nourished frame."—*Civil Service Gazette*. Sold only in packets labelled—"JAMES EPPS & Co., Homoeopathic Chemists, London."

**HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS.**—Few persons are so favoured by circumstances or so fortified by Nature as to enable them to pass unscathed the sore trials of an inclement season. With catarrhs, coughs, and influenza everywhere abounding, it should be universally known that Holloway's Ointment, diligently rubbed upon the chest, checks the worst assaults of these maladies, and securely wards off more grave and dangerous diseases of the throat and lungs. The truth of this assertion must remain unquestioned in the face of thousands of unimpeachable living witnesses, who have personally derived the utmost possible benefits from this treatment when their present sufferings were appalling and their future prospects most disheartening. Both remedies act admirably together.

**RECKITT'S PARIS BLUE.**—The marked superiority of this Laundry Blue over all others, and the quick appreciation of its merits by the public has been attended by the usual result—viz., a flood of imitations. The merit of the latter mainly consists in the ingenuity exerted, not simply in imitating the square shape, but making the general appearance of the wrappers resemble that of the genuine article. The manufacturers beg therefore to caution all buyers to see "Reckitt's Paris Blue" on each packet.

**CARDINAL ECRU, OR CREAM.**—JUDSON'S DYES.—White goods may be dyed in five minutes. Ribbons, silks, feathers, scarfs, lace, braid, veils, handkerchiefs, clouds, berouses, Shetland shawls, or any small article of dress, can easily be dyed without soiling the hands. Violet, magenta, crimson, mauve, purple, pink, ponceau, claret, &c., sixpence per bottle. Sold by Chemists and Stationers.

**OLDRIDGE'S BALM OF COLUMBIA.**—By the increasing demand for this famed Balm may be estimated its value and efficacy for replenishing, invigorating, and preserving the Hair either from falling off or turning grey. Without it no toilet is complete. It imparts to the hair a bright and glossy appearance, frees it entirely from scurf, and will not soil the most delicate fabric worn as head-dress "at home" or in promenade. In the "nursery" its use is invaluable, as it forms in infancy the basis of a healthy and luxuriant head of hair. Sold by all perfumers and chemists, at 3s. 6d., 6s., and 11s. only. Wholesale and retail by the proprietors, C. and A. Oldridge, 22, Wellington-street, seven doors from the Strand, London, W.C.

THOUSANDS are unable to take Cocoa because the varieties commonly sold are mixed with starch, under the plea of rendering them soluble; while really making them thick, heavy, and indigestible. This may be easily detected, for if cocoa thickens in the cup it proves the addition of starch. Cadbury's Cocoa Essence is genuine; it is therefore three times the strength of these cocoas, and a refreshing beverage like tea or coffee.

## Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

## MARRIAGES.

**DOMAILLE-FAIRBAIRNS.**—June 5, at the Upper Clapton Congregational Church, by the Rev. W. Brodribb Randall, M.A., Peter Stephen Domaille, Westend, Hants, to Fanny Elizabeth, eldest daughter of William Fairbairns, Springfield, Upper Clapton.

**FREER-WATT.**—June 5, at the Congregational Church, Harrogate, by the Rev. George Nicholson, B.A., Thomas Freer, of Spring Field, Briggs, solicitor, to Jane Elizabeth, widow of the late Alex. Watt, London, and daughter of the late Edward Banks Hewitt, of Norwich.

**GREAR-LANTSBERY.**—June 5, at the Independent Chapel, Cretton, Northamptonshire, by Rev. T. E. Noyes, B.A., assisted by Rev. J. Ervine and Rev. Samuel Yates, the Rev. Thomas Grear, of Wellingborough, to Mary Alice, eldest daughter of Edward Lantsbery, Esq., of Ravensthorpe.

**MOIT-BARFOOT.**—May 29, at New College Chapel, by the Rev. Johnson Barker, LL.B., Frederick T. Mott, F.R.G.S., of Borsal-hill, near Leicester, to Mary, only daughter of William Barfoot, Esq., J.P., Leicester.

**SCOTT-FRASER.**—June 6, at Westminster Chapel, by the Rev. Samuel Martin, assisted by the Rev. Henry Simon, co-pastor, and the Rev. Elvery Dothe, B.A., the Rev. John Young Scott, minister of Buccleuch Parish, Edinburgh, to Harriett, younger twin daughter of Arthur Fraser, the chief cashier of the National Provincial Bank of England.

## DEATH.

**STIFF.**—June 9, after a long illness, borne with Christian patience, Sarah Faulkner, the beloved wife of James Stiff, of Suffolk House, Clapham-road, in the 75th year of her age.

**HORNIMAN'S TEA.**—Choice teas at very reasonable prices are always to be had of Horniman's Agents; Chemists in every town. Being direct Importers, Messrs. Horniman guarantee the purity, strength, and flavour of all their teas. Their agents are constantly receiving fresh supplies from the Wholesale London House, secured in tinfoil packets, whereby the delicate flavour and aroma is preserved.

**PERFECTION.**—Mrs. S. A. ALLEN'S World's Hair Restorer never fails to restore grey hair to its youthful colour, imparting to it new life, growth, and lustrous beauty. Its action is speedy and thorough, quickly banishing greyness. Its value is above all others. A single trial proves it. It is not a dye. It ever proves itself the natural strengthener of the hair. Sold by all Chemists and Perfumers.

Mrs. S. A. ALLEN has for over 40 years manufactured these two preparations. They are the standard articles for the hair. They should never be used together, nor Oil nor Pomade with either.

Mrs. S. A. ALLEN'S Zyl-Balsamum, a simple tonic and hair-dressing of extraordinary merit for the young. Premature loss of the hair, so common, is prevented. Prompt relief in thousands of cases has been afforded where hair has been coming out in handfuls. It cleanses the hair and scalp, and removes dandruff. Sold by all Chemists and Perfumers.

**TEETH, £1 to £10 10s.**—THE COMPLETE UPPER OR LOWER SET OF FOURTEEN PURE MINERAL TEETH, fitted and fixed to the mouth without pain. The extraction of stumps, loose or decayed teeth not being necessary in any case. This perfectly painless system of adapting artificial teeth to the mouth is protected by Her Majesty's Royal Letters Patent; and a written guarantee given with every case that they will not decay or change colour. 54, Rathbone-place, Oxford-street, near Tottenham-court-road. Mr. M. E. Toomey, Surgeon-Dentist.

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JOHN BENNETT, having just completed great alterations in his Clock Show-Rooms, is enabled to offer to purchasers the most extensive Stock in London, comprising Clocks for the Drawing, Dining Rooms, and Presentation of the highest quality and newest designs at the lowest prices.

**JOHN BENNETT, WATCH and CLOCK MANUFACTORY, 65 and 64, CHEAPSIDE.**

**NORWOOD ORPHAN SOCIETY,** for the TRAINING UP of BEREAVED CHILDREN in CHRISTIAN FAMILIES. Approved cases received in the order of application. No voting. CONTRIBUTIONS are earnestly requested as aid of this new charity, and will be thankfully received and acknowledged by the Treasurer, Watson Osmond, Esq., 60, Fenchurch-street, E.C., and Netherton, Fenge-lane, Sydenham; or the Hon. Secretary, Rev. G. T. Coster, Sunny Bank, South Norwood, S.E. Post-office orders to be made payable at the General Post Office. Cheques to be crossed London and South-Western Bank.



**HEALTH WITHOUT MEDICINE.** Inconvenience, or expense, in DYSPEPSIA, Chronic Constipation, Diarrhoea, Nervous, Bilious, Pulmonary, and Liver Complaints, Debility, Asthma, Wasting in Old or Young, Nausea, and Vomiting. RESTORED by DU BARRY'S DELICIOUS FOOD:—

#### REVALENTA ARABICA

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